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TO SEEK REASONABLE PEACE

China's New Premier Outlines His Policy BUSY FORMING CABINET

Nanking, March 15.

Peace negotiations with the Communists would begin soon, the new premier, General Ho Ying-chin, told Chinese reporters here today, a few hours after his arrival in Nanking. But he emphasised that China must have a reasonable peace, acceptable by both sides.

Kwei Confirms Cruiser Near Port Of Dairen

Nanking, March 15.
Admiral Kwei Yung-ching today confirmed to Reuters that the Chinese cruiser Chungking (formerly HMS Aurora), which deserted to the Chinese Communists, is now in the vicinity of the Russian-controlled port of Dairen.
Admiral Kwei denied reports that the Chungking had been bombed by Nationalist planes, saying Chinese naval authorities had no intention of taking such action.
Admiral Kwei, who is Commander-in-Chief of the Chinese Navy, said he had received no reply from the warship to messages he had wirelessed appealing to the crew to return to their station in the lower Yangtze River.—Reuters.

Sino-Soviet Talks Deadlocked

Shanghai, March 15.
Sino-Soviet negotiations for a local commercial agreement giving Russia economic and mining privileges in China's North Western province of Sinkiang have reached a deadlock as the result of Soviet insistence on complete suspension of Chinese Customs regulations in Sinkiang on Soviet trade and freedom to export any commodity from the province, reliable Chinese sources here revealed today.
The talks were initiated by General Chang-chung, Governor for North West China, at Tihua, capital of Sinkiang, some weeks ago.
Originally intended to renew the local agreement signed by General Sheng Shih-tsai, deposed ruler of Sinkiang, the new agreement, if signed, would give the Soviet Union special trade, mining and aviation privileges not enjoyed by any other foreign power on Chinese soil.
The Soviet demands, on which disagreement arose, and to the present impasse, were said to include:
(1) Total suspension of Chinese Customs regulations in Sinkiang's Soviet trade—which Chinese quarters feel would permit the Russians to bring anything into Sinkiang, including such articles as are specifically banned by Customs regulations.
(2) Freedom to export any commodity from Sinkiang, irrespective whether or not these are banned by Customs rules.
(3) Establishment of a joint Sino-Soviet corporation for the development of mineral resources.
(4) Settling the duration of the proposed treaty at 50 years—Chinese feel the period should be reduced to five or ten years.
In regard to the third Soviet demand, Chinese delegates are known to hold no objection to joint development of mineral resources, but they want the metals to be explored specifically mentioned in the agreements.
On the other hand, the Russians feel there should be no specific definition in the treaty of the metals to be mined by the joint company.
Chinese are also said to object to the provision in the Soviet draft agreement that mineral resources which cannot be mined in Sinkiang are to be exported to Russia, because this would mean that China would have to hand over its uranium found in the province.—Reuters.

Freedom To Export

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Only then, he said, could it be permanent, and the reconstruction of the nation begun, improving the people's living standard and the country's international status.

China's foreign policy under his Cabinet will be one of friendship with all nations. If the purpose of United States aid is justified, he said, further aid should be accepted. Any friendly foreign aid should be accepted.

The Premier said that he has not yet considered finally the selection of ministers because he is awaiting the Legislative Yuan recommendations and because many important people are absent, some in Canton.

He revealed, however, that the Young China Party has promised to accept a portfolio and the Democratic-Socialist Party meets shortly in Shanghai to consider its participation in the Cabinet.

Asked whether his peace policy differed from ex-Premier Sun Fo's "honourable peace," Premier Ho declined to comment but elaborated that permanent peace on the basis of the dictates of reason and conscience is the only way to ensure a united and democratic China.

The Premier said some changes in the government's peace delegation will be made because some of the appointed delegates have resigned.

Well-Wishers

The Premier's train rolled into Nanking at 2.50 p.m., more than one hour late due to numerous stops on the way to receive well-wishing delegations.
An unusually large gathering turned up to meet the new Premier, including practically all high-ranking officials from President Li down. The moment the Premier alighted from his special coach he was mobbed by a large group of reporters and had to elbow his way through the dense crowd.

Immediately after his arrival the Premier plunged into discussions with Acting President Li Tsung-jen on the selection of Ministers for the Cabinet which is faced with the momentous problem of salvaging the tottering Nationalists from complete collapse.

General Ho's main tasks, as outlined by President Li, are to re-establish unity within the government, make peace with the Communists and carry out drastic reforms.
Tonight the Premier is giving a special dinner to the Premier. Among those invited are several candidates for portfolios in the new Cabinet.

They are General Chang Ching-chung, Mr. Shao Li-tse, Mr. Kankia-hou and General Ku Chung-tung.
Legislators sent the Premier a joint letter this afternoon urging him to select his Cabinet Ministers carefully and to ensure they included no debarred who want to continue the war.

Wu In Canton

Meanwhile Wu Tsung-chen deputy Premier in Dr. Sun Fo's Cabinet flew to Canton from Nanking today in what is believed will be an attempt to align Southern leaders with President Li Tsung-jen's peace government.

Wu was accompanied by General Chang Ching-chung, a former Premier, is currently head of the Chungking Pacification Headquarters.
It is believed Wu will try to bring into the peace fold such outstanding leaders as General Hsueh Yueh, Governor of Kwangtung, and General Yu Han-mow, Canton Pacification Director, who have refused earlier invitations to go to Nanking for conferences with President Li Tsung-jen.
Wu, in reply to a question, said current peace negotiations do not preclude a Red crossing of the Yangtze River.
Wu and Nationalist troops would oppose such a crossing, he said.—Reuters.

reiterated the Government's desire for an "honourable and permanent peace."
But to the Communists' eight peace conditions, the Government will make counter-proposals, he said. He pointed out, however, it is too early to talk of peace terms, since actual negotiations have not yet begun.

Red Broadcast

Communist broadcasts have continued to attack Nanking officials as being insincere in their peace efforts. Communist preparations for crossing of the Yangtze were reported progressing.

The Red Radio has repeatedly reiterated Communist insistence that any peace would be based on Communist leader Mao Tse-tung's eight points which, for the incumbent, Nanking, means plain surrender.

Communist forces last night attacked Nationalist positions three miles East of Yichang, 30 miles East of Nanking, on the perimeter of one of the Nationalist bridgeheads on the North bank of the Yangtze, according to reports today from Chinkiang.

Fighting was said to be continuing this morning. The Communists recently withdrew from Yichang, after fighting there.
Another Chinkiang report today said the sound of gunfire could be heard in the city, which is a key point on the Nanking-Shanghai railway about 40 miles East of Nanking on the South bank.—Reuters, United Press and Associated Press.

Taxpayer And Cost Of Royal Palaces

London, March 14.
Britain's Royal Palaces are expected to cost the taxpayer £110,000 in 1948-50, an increase of £32,925 over the current year, this was revealed today in the Civil Estimates for Common Services, which total £282,382,282, a net decrease of £7,417,123 compared to 1948-49.
Alterations and modernisation of Clarence House, the future London residence of Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh, will require £2,000 over the £45,000, which will probably have been spent on the building by March 31, the end of the current financial year.
The original estimate for the whole project was £50,000.
Royal parks and pleasure gardens, which are mostly open to the public, are expected to cost £202,000—an increase of £130,470.
Estimates for the Houses of Parliament total £1,085,000, an increase of £374,000. The chief item in these is £700,000 for the rebuilding of the war-damaged House of Commons.—Reuters.

ON OTHER PAGES
Page 2: F.W. Case Verdict Expected Today.
Page 3: HK To Participate In Indo-Pacific Fisheries Council.
Page 5: Marshall Plan Extension Approved.
Page 6: Gambling Laws—An Editorial.
Page 7: Western Union Powers Confer.
Page 9: Indonesia Threaten To Fight.
Page 10: Teen Age Topics.

The Pope Greeted On 73rd Birthday



His Holiness Pope Pius XII chats with a group of Minor Friars from the International Franciscan Congress in Rome, who were among a crowd of 20,000 people gathered in the Clementine Hall of the Vatican to greet the Pope and receive his blessing on the occasion of his 73rd birthday. There was no special ceremony to mark the occasion. AP Photo.

Britain To Welcome Suggestions On Safety Of Empire In Pacific

Canberra, March 15.

Lord Listowel, special emissary of Mr. Clement Attlee, told the Australian Cabinet that Britain would welcome Australian suggestions for improving the Empire's safety in the Pacific in view of the growing influence of Communism in China and regions North of Australia.

An authoritative source said that Lord Listowel warned the Cabinet in a two-hour talk today that the British Government believed that Pacific defences must be strengthened because of this changed position North of Australia.

Lord Listowel, it was said, told the Cabinet the British Government desired the closest co-operation with Australia and would welcome and co-operate in any Australian suggestions aimed at improving Empire safety.

On the economic side, the authoritative sources added, Lord Listowel pointed to the necessity of Britain and the rest of the Empire integrating as much as possible their various economies so as to relieve the dollar strain.

Lord Listowel was expected to begin detained defence discussions tonight with the Australian Defence Minister, Mr. John Dedman.

Lord Listowel told reporters that his visit to Australia, and visits to the dominions of other government representatives were part of an Empire pattern.

Parries Questioners

He parried his questioners' assertions by refusing to disclose by the process of elimination, the reason for his mission, but the reporters attached significance to the fact that, when questioned about Malaya, he produced a document thought to give the British viewpoint on the seriousness of the situation there.
Lord Listowel, it was presumed, had this document with him while talking with the Federal Cabinet.
"Everyone is concerned about

the spread of Communism in South East Asia," he said. "We can see the results in Malaya. The situation in Malaya is serious. We do not underestimate its gravity though there is a distinct improvement which can be seen in the smaller number of bandit attacks."

"There is reason to believe that the Malayan outbreak was helped by a Communist meeting in Calcutta."

Asked if in view of the growth of Communism in South East Asia he was satisfied with Australia's defence preparedness, he replied: "I cannot say. I have not been here long enough."

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"Everyone is concerned about

U.S. Army Pacific Coast Pier Goes Up In Flames

Oakland, March 15.

The U.S. Army's largest Pacific coast pier, bulging with supplies for overseas, burned early today in a general alarm fire punctuated by exploding oil drums. Two ships, scorched by the flames, were towed into San Francisco Bay away from the flames as fireboats, the Oakland Fire Department, Army and Navy fire-fighting details battled the billowing flames.
Absence of wind, plus precautions by hundreds of firemen, confined the flames to the 2,000-foot-long pier.

Flames shot 500 feet in the air. Diesel oil and petrol drums on the pier exploded regularly.
The fire broke out at midnight along the 2,000-foot long warehouse on the base pier and within a short while flames engulfed the whole warehouse.
The exploding drums generated tremendous heat and firemen had to spray water on the fire trucks to keep them from blistering.
Flames endangered two Army transports, "Young America" and "Sgt. George D. Keithley," but tugboats pulled them from the pier before major damage resulted.

With the fire still raging two hours after it started the Oakland Fire Chief, James Burke, said damage would amount to at least \$1,000,000.
Twenty-nine fire engines and nine fireboats fought the holocaust pumping streams of water into the warehouse and into the bay to keep the oil-soaked water from igniting.
The building was loaded with army supplies destined for Okinawa and Yokohama. The origin of the fire is a mystery.
Huge barrels of oil shot 600 feet over the heads of thousands of spectators attracted to the scene and then exploded in the air like rockets with a dull roar and a vivid flash of flame.—Associated Press and United Press.

Strike Cuts U.S. Coal Mine Output

Pittsburgh, March 15.

The U.S. coal industry's 20th major work stoppage since 1919, on Monday cut production to a mere trickle.

Other industries dependent on coal began living off their "fat" dash the big stockpiles of coal gathered during the current mild Eastern winter. More than 62,000 railroad men were tossed into idleness on lines normally transporting the nation's coal.
About 471,000 hard and soft coal miners stayed home to observe a two week shutdown called off by Mine Workers' President John L. Lewis. Lewis ordered the stoppage as a protest against the appointment of Dr. James Boyd as Director of the U.S. Bureau of Mines. A U.S. Senate Committee nevertheless approved 10 to 1, Boyd's nomination to the post.

About 437,000 soft and hard coal miners stayed away from work here today.

The stoppage halted all coal-mining East of the Mississippi. America's principal production area. It forced industry to begin using stocks of stored coal which had been accumulating owing to the recent mild weather and the reduction in exports.
The miners started a two weeks voluntary layoff from work in answer to Union leader John L. Lewis' call for a memorial to dead and injured miners.—Associated Press.

The Weather

At 0800 (2 p.m. HKST) a moderate anti-cyclone is stationary over China and Manchuria. A shallow depression extends to the S of Japan, and from it a trough extends through Luzon Strait to an area of low pressure over Indo-China and Siam.

Today's Forecast: Moderate NE winds, freshening after 2. Mainly overcast. Cool.
Yesterday's Weather:
Maximum: 76.4 deg. Fah.
Minimum: 65.2 deg. Fah.
Sunshine: 10.
Rainfall: Trace. Total since Jan. 1. 119.0 mm.—8.0 in. as against an average of 115.6 mm.—4.47 in.

Readings at 10 a.m.
10 a.m. 1017.4 1015.9 h.b.
Equals 30.05 30.00 inches.
Rel. Humidity 75 72 %
Dew Point 65 64 deg. F.
Wind Direction NNW E
Wind Force 1 2 knots
Tides: Time Ht.
High 11.15 5.8
Low 04.25 2.1
1920 2.6

CUSTOMS YUAN

Canton, March 15.
Chinese customs officials today began collecting duties in the new "customs yuan", a fixed-value currency provided for in the recent financial reform measures.
The new notes, usable only for duty payments, are valued at US\$0.40. They are obtainable from the Central Bank of China for gold yuan notes at a changing daily rate, based on the GY value of the foreign exchange certificates now used by import-export firms.—United Press.

U.K.'s Economic Position Still Dangerous

London, March 15.

Britain's economic position is still dangerous and her recovery will slow down rather than speed up during the next year, according to the Government's annual economic report today.

The 40,000-word White Paper, issued by Sir Stafford Cripps, Chancellor of the Exchequer, reviewed Britain's present economic situation and outlined plans for the fiscal year starting April 1.

It made two big points: Britain is not yet paying her way and her recovery progress will be slower from here on.

The report said: "It is impossible to expect 1949 will improve on 1948 as markedly as did 1948 on 1947."

The survey listed four objectives for 1949:
1. Major effort to expand sales in Canada and the United States.
2. To expand production still more, especially in key industries such as coal, steel, textiles and agriculture.
3. To bring costs, particularly exports, down and maintain and improve the quality of products.
4. To continue the battle against inflation and threatened loss of living increase with the weapon used successfully in 1947 and 1948.
Sir Stafford said the whole programme depended on whether the United States Congress approved Britain's request for U.S. \$340,000,000 in Marshall Plan aid and on continuance of present defence policies.
The report showed that Britain hoped to export U.S. \$7,500,000,000 worth of goods during 1949 compared to \$4,500,000,000 during 1948.—United Press.

Deaf-Mute Talked Too Much, Faces Suit

Atlanta, March 15.

A deaf-mute today faced a US\$65,000 damage suit here because he "talked" too much.
Miss Lella Campos, who described herself as a virtuous, unmarried deaf-mute, filed suit in the Fulton Superior Court against Gleason Grizzard, also a deaf-mute. She charged Grizzard at first "talked" too much to her and then too much about her—all in the sign language.
According to her petition, Grizzard paid her every attention and courtship was a member of the female society. Eventually, she said, by feigned promises and proposals of marriage and by avowals that unless he could have her, his life would be one unending pain, barren and barren of every and any pleasure he persuaded her to succumb to his charms.
Then, she charged, the tone of Grizzard's sign language changed. And he laughed at her, withdrew his promises of marriage and courted her on the streets. She said when she "talked" him with other deaf-mutes they laugh and poke their fingers at her.—United Press.

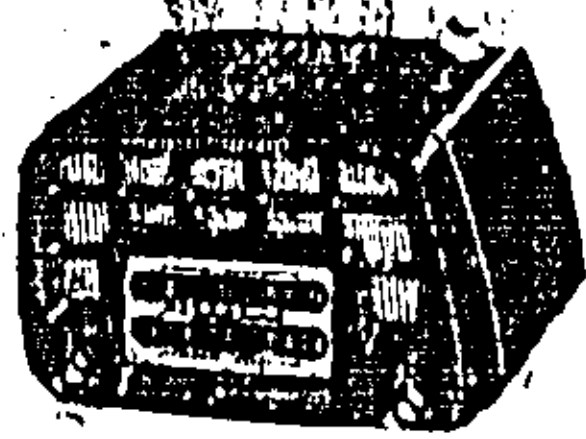
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PWD Case Verdict Expected Today

A great deal of blame falls on the head of the Government for not getting an adequate and efficient staff for the electrical department, according to Mr. A. J. Clifford, counsel for May, during his closing address to the jury at the PWD larceny trial yesterday. The verdict is expected some time this afternoon, after Mr. Justice Williams, Puisne Judge, has completed his summing up.

Standing trial are Kwok Kwong, foreman, and Arthur Frederick May, electrical inspector, Grade 1, both of the Public Works Department, who are charged with three counts of larceny by public servant and three counts of falsification of documents with intent to defraud.

Dr. G. H. Thomas, Deputy Director of Medical Services, took the witness stand yesterday to give further clarification of evidence. Later, J. A. Hendall, Senior Accountant of the PWD, said in evidence that when he returned from leave on September 13, 1946, he conducted a brief survey of the accounts system of the PWD.

Witness then read out an appendix of a report to the Director of Public Works, which stated that there was a high standard of efficiency in the electrical department and that it was a fact considered worthy of bringing to his special notice.

Mr. A. Hooft, Crown Counsel, then briefly cross-examined witness, after which May's counsel, Mr. A. J. Clifford, began his closing address to the jury. Mr. Clifford declared that they were dealing with a criminal charge, and not with departmental inquiries, and what the jury had to decide was whether May had committed a criminal offence. The question was whether May did deliberately steal PWD property, he added, and deliberately falsified accounts.

Burden Of Proof

It was not for May to prove his innocence, Counsel stated, but rather for the prosecution to prove his guilt.

As regards Kwok Kwong, Mr. Clifford told the jury that it was only his word, and his word only, with regard to his defence. He had called no witnesses at all, he pointed out.

Counsel went on to state that there would at least be someone among the witnesses who would mention May's name, but working men had gone into the box without doing so. It was not even alleged that money had passed into the hands of May, he said.

Continuing, Counsel asked the jury to infer whether a man would deliberately spread a net to catch himself. If May, he said, was doing illegal things, would he leave written records of everything behind? If he was deliberately taking men from the To Kwa Wan job, Mr. Clifford asked, would he keep it in his official diary mentioning that he visited the place twice?

Referring to Kwok Kwong once more Counsel asked whether the two electrical affairs in question were not only some of Kwok's private transactions.

Counsel then commented on the electrical jobs done at the CPA field offices at Kai Tak, stating that Kwok Kwong had admitted that May did not know what he was doing, and that he used

Government men and materials on those jobs. "And when he is caught red-handed," Counsel told the jury, "he says that he was ordered to do the jobs by Mr. May."

Receipt For \$70

Turning to the question of the forged receipt for \$70 in connection with the two fluorescent lights installed at Heilmeyer's office, Counsel asked whether the jury could believe Kwok Kwong when he said that he did the job on May's instructions. He (the jury) asked if they could think Kwok is as philanthropic as all that.

Mr. Clifford then asked whether May, a man of high standing and good reputation, would deceive his own daughter-in-law for \$70 when the simplest thing in the world would be to tell his foreman to go to the nearest shop and get the lights for \$69.

Counsel went on to deal with the evidence concerning log books and log sheets. The clerks, he submitted, made some alterations which May could not see. When the driver of the lorry concerned put down his lorry as having gone to Aberdeen, he said, Kwok Kwong altered it, telling Len Poshan to have things "fixed" according to him.

Mr. Clifford then informed the jury that if they accepted this, then they must acquit the second accused, for he submitted, nobody ever deceived a co-conspirator.

Citing the evidence of the PWD Senior Accountant, Mr. Clifford declared that it would be impossible to devise a system by which everything could be completely checked. Not unless there was a large supervising staff, he added, or if the employees were given a higher pay which, Counsel intimated, was not probable in such a place as Hong Kong.

Mr. Clifford went further into the system devised by May and his, and that he tried to bring about order among the office staff. A great deal of the blame, however, Counsel mentioned, falls on the Government for not getting an adequate staff to do the arranging in general. May had to do many things, he said, one of which was getting inventories done for checking up furniture.

False Papers

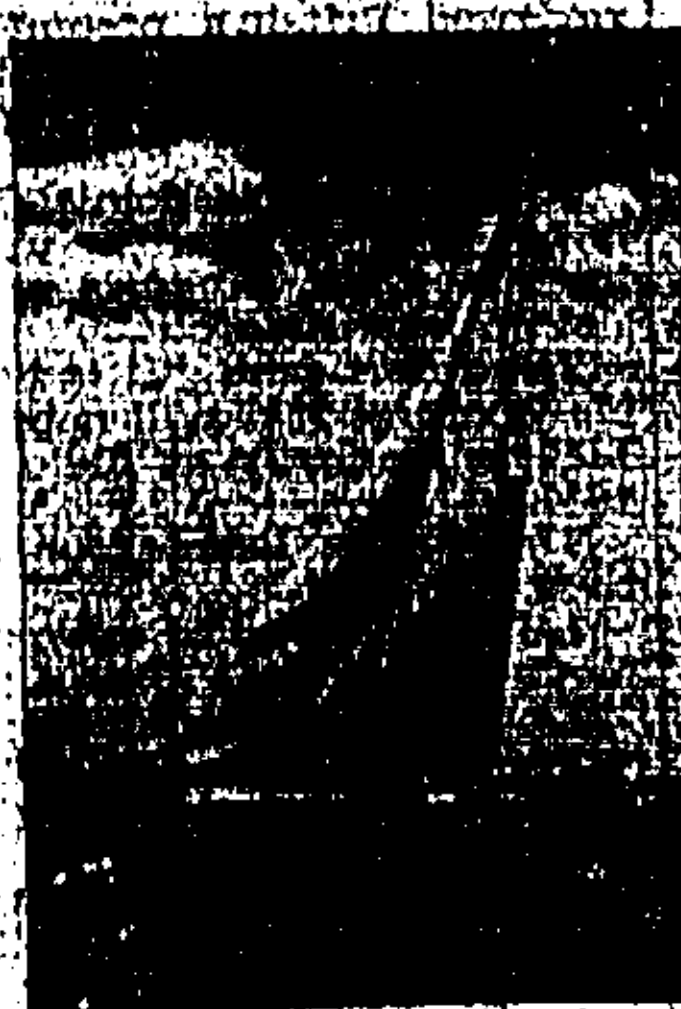
Mr. Clifford then dealt with the counts of falsification of documents, in the course of which he asked the jury to infer whether May would have two fluorescent lights installed at Heilmeyer's office, and run the risk of being caught when he knew that that would eventually be found out from the records.

Counsel went on to ask the jury not to convict May on such evidence, as produced by the prosecution, which he submitted was no evidence at all. There was no criminal evidence against May, he further submitted, in the evidence given by Heilmeyer and Dr. Thomas.

(Continued on Page 14)

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The Editor takes no responsibility for views expressed in letters by correspondents, and by no means necessarily agrees with them.

Timely

Sir—The letter on "queuing" signed by E. L. (13/3/49) is very timely, and although not so important in shopping, I do think that the police should do something at the cinemas where at present it is just one scramble going in or leaving.

At one theatre in particular the management makes no attempt whatever to insist on the observance of good order.

E. W. C.

Govt. Salaries

Sir—In this colony working side by side with the British troops garrisoned here are over 500 civilian employees whom the Government employs as

clerks, chief clerks, accountants, engineers, chief foremen and in other supervisory grades. Some of the terms and conditions under which they are employed are brought to the attention of the authorities concerned and to the public in general.

All of them are employed on a temporary basis. One month's notice is given to the employer in all that is required for the termination of service. No question of bonus, gratuity or pension even after a lifetime of faithful service.

2. No medical treatment either for himself or family.

3. Twelve days leave is his annual entitlement. Of these half are automatically deducted away in the case when he wants a day off on a Government gazetted holiday which the authorities at Headquarters Land Force, do not approve to be a W.D. holiday.

4. He can be called upon to do extra hours of work—as many as are required of him—and not be paid an extra cent. Existing regulations governing his pay do not recognise "overtime pay" as applicable in his case.

5. Rates of pay cannot stand comparison with commercial firms, of course. Compared with those of the Hong Kong Government and the Naval Dockyard they are miserably low.

The above conditions fantastic and feudal as they seem, more so because they are being imposed by such an august body will shock many of the higher-ups and many a labour official. But they exist today with the W.D. in Hong Kong.

In conclusion may we point out that both the Hong Kong Government servant and the Naval Dockyard employee have had their lot improved. The former, has had a year of back pay and now work under a better rate of pay and of course better conditions. The latter, had an initial advance of 40 per cent of expected increase.

The W.D. employee so far has had nothing. Despite the fact that in previous months the W.D. clerk's HCL allowance of 75 per cent of his basic wage was based on Government computations it now appears that the extra 25 per cent, already granted to Government servants will not be given to the W.D. clerk. Apparently the office concerned at Headquarters, have decided through reasons known only to themselves that this increase in the cost of living does not affect him at all.

With the millions to be spent on the HKDF, surely it is worth while expending a fraction of that sum into turning what is now an ill-paid and dissatisfied body of men into one that is well-paid and contented? Most of them are "key-men" essential in time of emergency and they could prove a pillar of strength in that time.

They have been promised over a year ago that revision of their rate of salary has been under consideration and will be based

on the Hong Kong Government's Salaries Commission's report. Is it not about time that "active War Office" consideration be finalised and an announcement made?

TABLE "A"

Causeway Lament

Sir—May I be allowed through the medium of your widely read paper, to establish contact with those living in the vicinity of Bayview Road, Causeway Bay, who, not being immune to continual nocturnal disturbances, and it impossible to obtain more than three or four hours sleep each night.

Signs indicate that future nights will mean even less.

Individual complaint means continual complaint and does not get any very far, but combined action will produce results. In a master race, nor a master class, but a master spirit—the free spirit of a morally sound nation.

Will those interested please contact me via P.O. Box N. 1372 (Chinese Branch).

SLEEPLESS NIGHTS.

UAL Official Arrives

Mr. H. E. "Cris" Morley, Assistant Western Regional Traffic and Sales Manager for the United Air Lines has arrived in Hong Kong.

The UAL's executive is on a three-month tour of the Orient to complete inter-line agreements with airline and steamship com-



Mr. H. E. MORLEY

panies, operating in the Pacific and Far East.

In addition to calling on airline officials and travel agencies, Mr. Morley will interview government, military and industrial officials.

He will leave Hong Kong shortly for Manila, Bangkok, Batavia, Darwin, Sydney, Brisbane, Melbourne, Auckland, Honolulu and other cities.

BRIEF MEET OF URBAN COUNCIL

The Urban Council broke all existing conference records yesterday as far as brevity is concerned.

Its forthrightly meeting yesterday, lasted only 75 seconds as against the previous record of two minutes.

Only one application for a food shop licence was dealt with at the meeting. It was refused because the applicant's premises are used for domestic purposes.

Rotary Club Talk On Burma Situation

A renaissance of spirit is necessary for Burma to recover from her present impasse, said Professor L. B. Allen, speaking at the Hong Kong Rotary Club yesterday.

In the present atmosphere of mistrust and fear, the country has become a prey to subversive forces. Burma's hope lies in a widespread recovery of her time-honoured principles of decency, teamwork and hearty hospitality for which the Burmese people are noted.

The Burmese had, during the war, lived under conquerors who believed in the master race idea. They are today reduced to chaos by an alien ideology which is devoted to the master class idea.

They will probably find that a solution of their problems lies not in a master race, nor a master class, but a master spirit—the free spirit of a morally sound nation.

Professor Allen, who was formerly professor of modern history at the Rangoon University, and had spent the greater part of his 10-year stay in the Far East in Burma, traced the rapid march of events since the country gained her independence on January 4, 1948.

The present government is dominated by the socialists who openly profess Marxist doctrine but are caught in the net of international Communism, and it is on this point, more than any other, that they wage war with the Communist rebels today.

The government has tried to implement its socialist doctrines in inland water, transport, the tank industry and land reform, including the taking over of about two-thirds of the teak forests in Central Burma and a plan at nationalising half a million acres of land.

Wave Of Enthusiasm

Starting off in a wave of enthusiasm, she soon ran into many of the difficulties of building up a new country in an atmosphere of conflicting ideologies.

The Karens, who form the largest minority in the country, numbering 2,000,000 out of a total population of 17,000,000, asked for a separate state of their own. The Communists, after their experience in Calcutta, returned and broke out in open rebellion in April. The Prime Minister tried to bring about a compromise in June but failed, and in the summer the crisis deepened.

The White Band or People's Volunteer Organisation went underground, and the Karens went on the warpath. Located in Southern Burma, the Karens seized several large cities. From latest Press report the Government has had to sue for peace and has agreed to grant the Karens their autonomy, just one year after they made the demand.

Professor Allen did not think the situation was as bad as many people thought. It is highly unpredictable, he admitted, but it is clear a certain pattern is developing.

Two Possible Courses

From a political point of view there appear to be two possible courses out of the present impasse. One is some form of coalition government, already sought by the People's Volunteer Organisation and is said to be in negotiation with the government. Another possibility is an autonomous state, and possibly separate Communist areas of control in central and northern regions.

From an economic point of view, Professor Allen said on September 1947 the country presented a balanced budget, but in September 1948, six months after the Communist rebellion started, there was a deficit of £2,770,000. In the 1948 budget, about 20 per cent of the expenditure was earmarked for military or police purposes.

"One shudders to think what the 1949 budget will show. Already the Burma Government has been looking abroad for financial aid to hold things together," said Professor Allen.

Burma's export, which averaged 3,000,000 tons before the war, had dropped to 1,125,000 tons. What it would be next year, with the present disruption going

National Bankruptcy

"All these factors are adding to national bankruptcy unless an international financing comes to Burma's aid," said the speaker.

Dealing with the ideological trend in Burma today, Professor Allen said this was the most important issue, because it largely determined both the political and economic developments.

The present government is dominated by the socialists who openly profess Marxist doctrine but are caught in the net of international Communism, and it is on this point, more than any other, that they wage war with the Communist rebels today.

Sharp Controversies

In each of these schemes the government has run into sharp controversies over compensation. Government has warned plaintiffs that in the event of a Communist regime there would be no compensation at all.

The Karens, normally considered to be very conservative, are fighting hand in hand with the Communists against the socialist government, and it would appear that there is some understanding between them for mutual help to setting up Karen autonomy in the South, and Communist areas in the North.

The speaker was thanked by Rotarian H. A. Ayres.

President D. S. Hill extended the Club's welcome to Visiting Rotarians George T. Huang and Chik Wan-jung from Canton, Dr. C. T. Wang, J. Muckle and Fred Jones from Shanghai, and N. T. Liu from Peking.

Among the guests present were Messrs. Ray Piccolo, Frank X. Cleary, K. J. Sippy, R. W. Smith, G. Young, K. S. Peck, M. J. Platt, D. McGavin and R. E. Dean.

SALE

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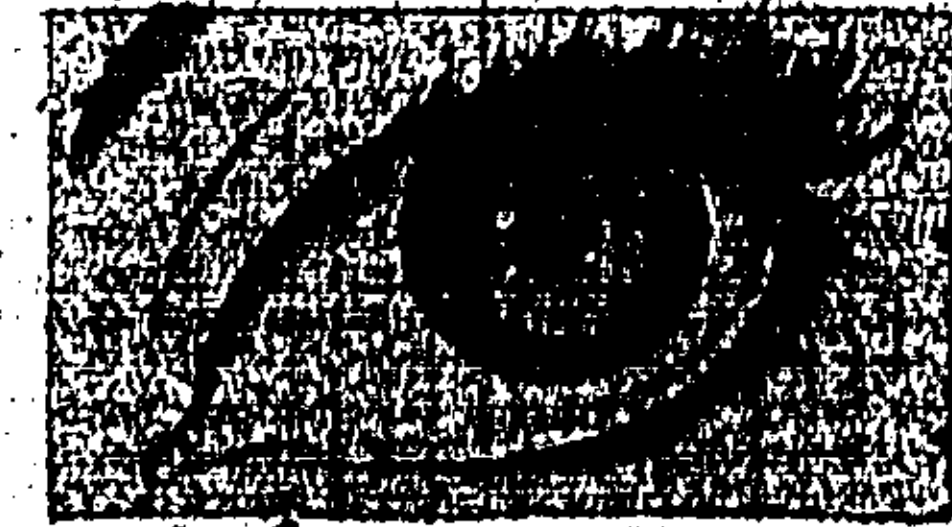
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Classified Advertisements, accepted up to 5 p.m. for publication in the following day's paper.

Replies for the following Box Nos. are awaiting collection.

Nos. 776, 780, 782.

Replies will be forwarded to the Advertiser if requested on the original form which should bear their name and address.

A suitable announcement will be inserted Free of Charge if Advertiser's requirements are satisfactorily answered.

POSITIONS VACANT

Dr. B. N. Chau wishes to thank all appointments made at his Full Time Secretary to the Hong Kong Anti-Tuberculosis Association, and desires to inform them that the vacancy has now been filled.

MUSIC Firm requires lady assistant for sales dept. Good knowledge of English and able to play on piano preferred. Apply in own hand writing, state age, nationality, and salary expected to Box No. 783 "China Mail".

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TENDERS are invited for the sale of approximately 15 tons 18 gauge drum scrap. Offers should be addressed to the District Manager, The Texas Company, (China) Ltd., 14, Queen's Road, not later than March 21, 1949.

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HONG KONG FILM AND THEATRE NEWS at 50 cents per copy. Obtainable at: Leading Book Stores, Newspaper Sellers and "China Mail" Office.

HONG KONG DIRECTORY (1949 edition) containing Hong Kong, Canton, Shanghai, schools, churches, institutes, consulates, services, clubs, agencies, who's who, residences. It's the most up-to-date and most complete of all business directories in the Colony. NOW ON SALE at all leading book stores and "China Mail" office.

THE HONG KONG ELECTRIC CO., LTD.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS

NOTICE is hereby given that the Fifty-sixth Ordinary Yearly Meeting of Shareholders will be held at the Company's Office, 4th Floor, P. & O. Building, on Thursday the 17th day of March, 1949, at 11 a.m. for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Board of Directors together with the Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31st December 1948, and to elect Directors and appoint Auditors.

The Transfer Books of the Company will be closed from 5th March to 17th March, 1949, both days inclusive.

By Order of the Board,
GIBB, LIVINGSTON & CO., LTD.
Agents

Hong Kong, Feb. 17, 1949.

HONG KONG TRAMWAYS LTD.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Ordinary Yearly General Meeting of the Company will be held at the Offices of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Company, Limited, Hongkong, on Tuesday, 22nd day of March, 1949, at 12 o'clock Noon, to transact the ordinary business of the Company.

And, NOTICE IS HEREBY ALSO GIVEN that the Register of Members of the Company will be closed from the 8th to the 22nd day of March, 1949, both days inclusive.

By Order of the Board,
W. H. PATERSON,
Secretary.

Hong Kong, Feb. 22, 1949.

THE HONG KONG FIRE INSURANCE CO., LTD.

Notice to Shareholders

The Seventy-sixth Ordinary Yearly Meeting of Shareholders will be held at the offices of the Undersigned on Friday, the 18th March, 1949, at Noon, for the purpose of receiving the Report of the General Managers together with a Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31st December, 1948.

The Share Register and Transfer Books will be closed from the 4th March to the 18th March, 1949, both days inclusive.

JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., LTD.

General Managers,
The Hong Kong Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.
Hong Kong, Feb. 25, 1949.

HONG KONG CLUB

NOTICE IS HEREBY given that the 101st Yearly General Meeting of the Members of the Hong Kong Club will be held at the Club House on Thursday 24th March 1949 at 5.30 p.m.

By Order of the Committee
K. W. Kirby
Secretary.

Service Auction Rooms

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THE BANK OF CANTON, LTD.

Ordinary Yearly General Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the ordinary yearly general meeting of shareholders of the company will be held at the Head Office of the company, 6, Des Voeux Road Central, Hong Kong, on Wednesday, the 23rd March, 1949 at 3.00 p.m. for the purpose of receiving and considering the reports of the Directors and of the Auditors and the Profit and Loss Account and Balance Sheet for the year ending 31st December 1948 and for the appointment of Directors and Auditors and declaration of dividends.

The Register of Shares of the Company will be closed from the 15th day of March to 23rd March, 1949 (both days inclusive) during which period no transfer of shares will be registered.

By order of the Board,
D. S. YUAN,
Chief Manager.

Hong Kong, March 9, 1949.

THE HONG KONG AND YAUMATI FERRY COMPANY, LIMITED.

Notice is hereby given that the Twenty-First Ordinary Annual Meeting of the Company will be held at the Company's Office, Jordan Road Ferry Pier, Kowloon, on Saturday, the 26th March, 1949 at 12.00 noon for the purpose of receiving the Report and Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31st December 1948.

Notice is also given that the Share Register of the Company will be closed from the 16th to 20th March, 1949, both days inclusive.

By Order of the Board,
LAU TAK PO,
Managing Director.
Hong Kong, March 10, 1949.

NOTICE

IN THE MATTER OF
E. W. BLACKMORE,
LIMITED

NOTICE is hereby given that an Extraordinary General Meeting of the members of the above-named Company duly convened and held at the registered Office of the Company, 1st floor, York Building, Chater Road, Hongkong, on the 18th day of February, 1949, the Resolution below mentioned was duly passed as a Special Resolution and the Resolution secondly below mentioned was at the same Meeting passed as an Ordinary Resolution:

That the Company be wound-up voluntarily.

Mr. E. W. Blackmore of 1st floor, York Building be and he is hereby appointed Liquidator for the purpose of such winding-up.

All persons having claims against the above-named Company should forward same to Mr. E. W. Blackmore aforesaid on or before 16th April, 1949.

Hong Kong, March 16, 1949.

NOTICE

IN THE MATTER OF
THE SOUTH CHINA
SPUNCRETE CO., LTD.

NOTICE is hereby given that an Extraordinary General Meeting of the members of the above-named Company duly convened and held at the registered Office of the Company, 1st floor, York Building, Chater Road, Hongkong, on the 18th day of February, 1949, the Resolution below mentioned was duly passed as a Special Resolution and the Resolution secondly below mentioned was at the same Meeting passed as an Ordinary Resolution:

That the Company be wound-up voluntarily.

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All persons having claims against the above-named Company should forward same to Mr. E. W. Blackmore aforesaid on or before 16th April, 1949.

Hong Kong, March 16, 1949.

NOTICE

MARLBURIAN CLUB

It is proposed to hold an Old Marlburian dinner at the Hongkong Club on Friday, 8th April 1949, and it is hoped that all O.M.'s in the Colony will be able to attend.

Please forward your names with houses and dates to T. G. Mead, C/o Hongkong & Shanghai Bank.



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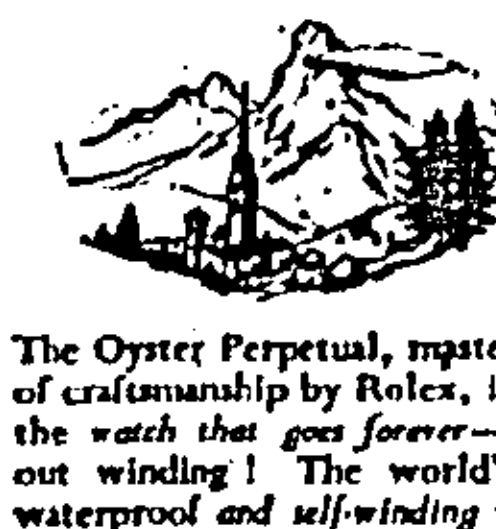
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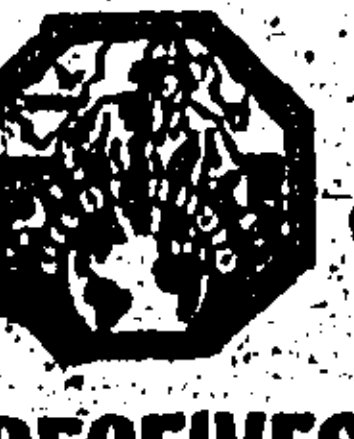
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By Dick Turner



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BARCLAY ON BRIDGE

By Shepard Barclay
The Authority on Authorities

WARY ABOUT COMING IN
HAVING learned from bitter experience about the cost of over-calling with a hand of questionable playing strength, the soundest players are wary on the subject of such bids. They have found that, when one opponent has shown enough strength to open the bidding, it is seldom that their partners will have enough strength for the side to make a game. Hence, the chance for a part-score is usually all that is sought by such a bid, and at the risk of being doubled for the loss of many more points, than they stood to gain by their action.

S J 8 3
H 7 3
D J 6 5 2
C A K 3 2

S K 9
H Q 10 6
D 5
C A Q 8 4

S 10 7 5
H K J 4
D 10 9 7
C Q 10 9

SAQ 4 2
HA 9 8 2
DK 3
C 6 4

(Dealer: East. North-South vulnerable.)

East South West North
Pass 1 S 2 D Pass
Pass Dbl

Where that diamond overall was made at several tables of a duplicate, several different kinds of action ensued. In one case North bid 2-No Trumps, in another the two high 3-Clubs, all of which resulted in North-South playing the hand, as was also the case where North passed and then South showed his second suit at 2-Hearts. The best North-South result with its own side as declarer was the making of 3-Spades, netting 90 for tricks plus 50 for contract, or a total of 140. Some North-South pairs even got too high and were set, a result that also occurred in two cases where West passed the opening.

What should have followed West's unsoundly dangerous overcall is that given in the sequence above. North, passing. South doubling and North making a business pass. That occurred at two tables, and properly showed up the undue hazard of West's bid. It resulted in a two-trick set, giving North and South 300 points, the worst looking administration to any East-West pair.

Against the doubled 2-Diamonds, the club K was led, so the defence got two tricks in that suit, the ruff of a club, the heart A, the diamond J, the spade A and the ruff of a heart for a total of seven tricks.

Tomorrow's Problem
S 10 5 4
H K 5
D Q J 4
C 7 6 5 4

S Q 8 2
H 2
D A K 10
C 7 5 3

S 10 9 3
H J 9 8 6
D 8 2
C A K 9

S A K J
H A Q 10 7 4
D 9 6
C J 8 2

(Dealer: South. East-West vulnerable.)

For what principal reason should East be careful about his play on the diamond K lead, against the 2-Hearts contract he had doubled, West having made a diamond overcall?

A BRITISH CROSSWORD PUZZLE

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9							
12							
20	21						
25							
28							

Across

1 Current.
5 Drawing-room.
8 Struck an attitude.
9 Melted.
10 Unusual.
11 Seat.
12 Active.
13 Weary.
15 Gloomy.

18 Not so far.
20 Holy table.
22 Fairy.
23 Muscle.
25 Inexpertly.
26 Lay waste.
27 Flat.
28 Board game.
29 Fault.

Down

1 Pudding-in.
2 Pudent.
3 Initiated.
4 Warship.
5 Legislator.
6 Handsome man.
7 Fatty.

14 Deserter.
15 Industrious.
16 Sed-soldier.
17 Venerated.
18 Aristocrat.
19 Aristocrat.
21 Tree.
24 Ridge.

Idiom: 25 Aiding. 26 Avid. 27 Heed. 28 Nodded.

DOWN—1 Muse. 2 Told. 3 Oboc. 4 Domain. 5 Slaying. 6 Concede. 7 Saluted. 10 Droop. 13 Garmah. 14 Barrier. 15 Ottoman. 17 Upright. 18 Obtain. 21 Lido. 22 Tied. 23 Aged.

Yesterday's Crossword

ACROSS—1 Method. 5 Backs. 8 Bout. 9 Seldom. 11 Annual. 12 Dreamy. 14 Boon. 16 Nudge. 18 Adapt. 19 Ogre. 20 Outlet. 24

Senate Committee Approves Extension Of Marshall Aid

Washington, March 14. The Senate Foreign Relations Committee today recommended the approval of the full authorization of \$940 million of aid to Britain for 1949-50 under the Marshall Plan.

Presenting its report on a bill to continue the Marshall Plan, the Senate Committee reviewed Britain's needs in the light of a statement made by Mr. Churchill yesterday. British Parliamentary Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, on February 23 to the effect that Britain's recovery was virtually complete.

The Committee's report said that the statement had led to "widespread questioning of the need for further American aid."

The report concluded: "In view of the fact that any setback in the recovery of Britain would have disastrous effect on the whole European Recovery Programme, the Committee recommends to the Senate the approval of the full authorization requested, with a reminder that another thorough review will be afforded when the justifications for the appropriations are examined."

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Executive Producer and Director **GEORGE STEVENS** - Produced by **HAROLD PARSONS**

WATCH FOR THE OPENING DATE

Hoffman Urges Unity Among Free Nations

Washington, March 14. The European Recovery Administration, Mr. Paul Hoffman, said today that Russia would not fight as long as the free peoples of the world stood together.

Mr. Hoffman made the prediction to the 12-man Swedish trade union delegation which is making a two-week tour of the United States.

"No free nation was ever an aggressor nation," he said. "People don't make war, only dictators make war and they are always a menace. We have today only one aggressor nation, and that is Russia. As long as the free peoples of the world stand together there will be no war with Russia."

United Press.

The report gave the Committee's approval to the Aid Bill. This recommended the allocation of \$1,550 million to Marshall

aid from June, 1949, to June, 1950.

Summing up the success of the Marshall Plan to date, the report said: "Due to the efforts of the peoples on both sides of the Atlantic, the risk has proved worth taking. The programme is now successfully underway. With the momentum gained during the past 12 months, this second and critical year should bring the participating countries still closer to the achievement of those great ideals of common welfare and

peace embodied in the Recovery Programme."

The Committee's report makes these points:

The adoption of an amendment designed to step up that part of the Marshall Plan programme which provides for increased production of strategic materials overseas and their transfer to the United States.

The amendment urges the Economic Co-operation Administration to use its bargaining power with the European countries to increase the production of strategic materials and to assist other agencies of the United States Government in purchasing such materials.

U.S. Surplus
It empowers him to enter into contracts for projects as long as 20 years for the purchase of strategic materials.

Red Army Manoeuvres In Germany
Berlin, March 15.

The Red army in Germany is planning its greatest Spring manoeuvres since the war, it was reported in Berlin yesterday.

The Western licensed German press said the Russians would stage gigantic war games in Eastern Germany, including river crossings and mock ground-air combined offensives.

Fifty thousand German policemen, making up the Communist police, will take part in the manoeuvres, especially assigned to handling traffic, the British licensed Telegram said.

Police schools set up by the Communists in the past year will perform military operations to show the Soviet officers the advanced stages of their training, the newspaper said it had been informed by Eastern German sources.

Allied sources said the Russians have been slowly building up their armed forces in Germany since the first of the year, after the occupation strength had dwindled to a low point of 150,000.—Associated Press.

U.S. Surplus
The Committee recommended that the programme be continued for additional 15 months from its present April 3 expiration date and it asked authorization for every penny that Hoffman requested.

The Committee rejected all suggestions that the bill provide for increasing the exports of surplus American farm goods. The report said, "It seemed to be clear to the committee that it would alter fundamentally the nature and purpose of the recovery programme if the Administration were required to depart from the principle that the primary objective is assisting recovery in Europe."

Recalling that Hoffman has already been asked to give special treatment to 100 different commodities, the committee said that if he yielded to the requests, the recovery programme would be a mere device to increase the surplus in the long run. The Committee urged Hoffman, however, to use United States surplus commodities whenever such action would be consistent with the goals of the recovery programme.

The Committee asked the Senate to authorize \$1,550,000,000 to run the programme from April 3 to June 30, 1949, \$4,280,000,000 for the fiscal year 1950 and \$150,000,000 in advance contracting authority. If the Senate approves the authorization, the actual cash must still be appropriated.—Reuter and United Press.

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The wise family always has the blue tin in the house.

DeWitt's ANTACID POWDER
Neutralizes Acid - Soothes Stomach - Relieves Pain

Latest Shift In Soviet Hierarchy

Moscow, March 14.

It was disclosed today that **Nikolai A. Voznesensky** has been relieved of duties as Vice-Premier and chairman of the Soviet State Planning Commission.

The latest shift in the top Soviet hierarchy came to light when the Council of Nationalities, one of the two houses of the Soviet Parliament, ratified the appointment of **Maksim Zaharovich Saburov** to those two posts.

There was no immediate indication whether the 45-year-old Voznesensky remains a member of the all powerful Soviet Politburo.

It was announced that Saburov took over as Vice-Premier and Chairman of the State Planning Commission on March 5. The chairman of the Planning Commission is responsible for planning and planning and co-ordinating the Soviet economy.

Voznesensky became chairman in 1939 and his latest major task was the framing of Russia's first postwar five-year plan. He became a full member of the Politburo in 1947 at the age of 43 and was the only member who also was a member of the Academy of Sciences by virtue of his scholarly achievements.

The Council of Nationalities Vice-Presidents of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet, **Nikolai Natanovich** and **Georgi Sturua** of Georgia.

Vassily Kozlov was appointed to succeed **Natanovich** and **Vassily Kozlov** to succeed **Sturua**. **Natanovich** was relieved of his duties on the grounds that he no longer works in Byelo-Russia.

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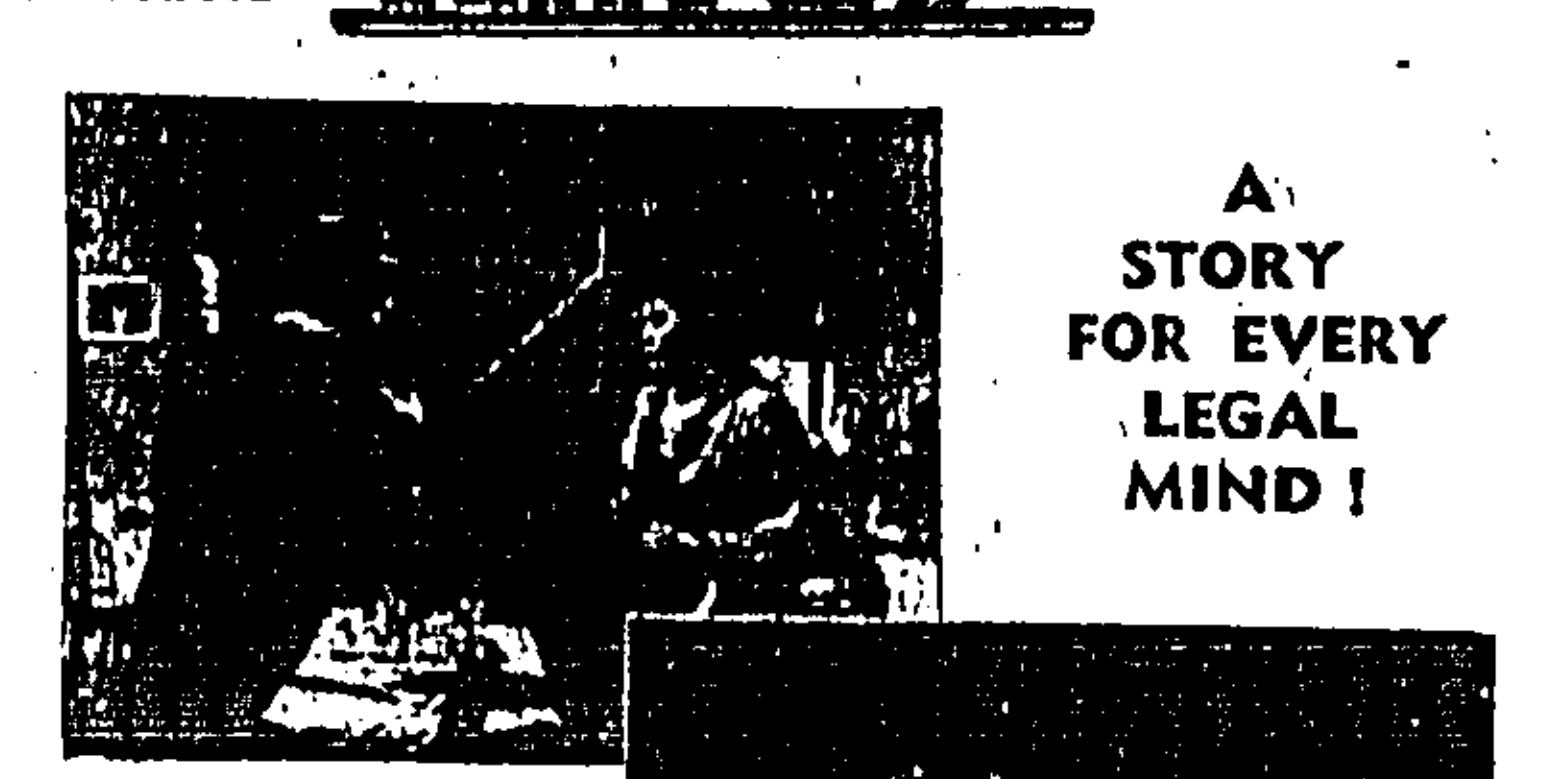
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BANGKOK	Friday	18th "
SINGAPORE	Saturday	19th "
MANILA	Monday	21st.
BANGKOK	Monday	21st.
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GAMBLING LAWS

At Kowloon Court yesterday a resident was fined \$1,000 on the charge of keeping a common gaming house. What he had been doing was operating a football pool. A second charge of possession of lottery tickets was for some reason withdrawn.

The case came close on the heels of two government decisions widening the scope of gambling. It was discovered that the Jockey Club had been breaking the law by publishing notices of its cash sweeps, so a bill was brought in to legalise this, although they are an out-and-out form of gambling. Then, with special reference to the Society St. Vincent de Paul and similar organisations, it was agreed to bring in a law making legal lotteries for charitable purposes.

The British Puritanical instinct is difficult to understand, even by those of us brought up in its odour of sanctity. One thing is correct, although its only justification seems to be that millions of money are involved, while a similar manifestation has to be prosecuted with utmost rigour. In England, passing slips to a street bookie is most irregular, but one can with the full approval of the authorities telephone a bet to one's agent—or, of course, place it at the racetrack.

Our laws here are at least inspired by those at Home, where football pools are entirely respectable—in fact, they form the seventh largest industry in the country. One adult out of every two fills in forms every week, and prizes up to £70,000 sterling are not uncommon. Special post offices and transport systems have had to be built to cope with the volume of business. But in Hong Kong it is decided they are illegal and undesirable. Why? At Home they are permitted because they are supposed to be tests of skill, not games of chance. The large firms retain only five per cent of the profits, and disburse some 80 per cent in prizes. A careful check can be kept on their balance sheets. The same could be done in Hong Kong—although with more difficulty, admittedly—and a safeguard provided for the public.

Other forms of gambling flourish in the Colony. In some sections one can walk along streets where from every window comes the rattle of mah jong. Assuredly it would be impossible for the police to stop all the schools if they were made illegal and no one who knows the Chinese would expect them to go out of existence.

Then there is the tombola business, also illegal in Hong Kong. It happens that this is the only gambling game which is permitted in the British services, and the profits are set aside for the welfare of the ranks. Troops therefore indulge in it here, with big prizes for the winners, on their own premises of course. But do all these eager hundreds in civilian clothes go back to polish buttons afterwards?

The position is just a farce. People will gamble whether learned gentlemen say they should or not. It is like other weaknesses of the flesh, and the obvious thing to do is to admit the inevitable and put it under proper control.

WINSTON CHURCHILL'S WAR MEMOIRS: THE SECOND BOOK

THEIR FINEST HOUR

Mussolini's Dream Of Conquest

By Winston Churchill

I suggested the following text of the telegram for publication which the President might send me to elicit the assurance he desired [after the formal offer of the naval bases on August 27].

The Prime Minister of Great Britain is reported to have stated on June 4, 1940, to Parliament in effect that if during the course of the present war in which Great Britain and British Colonies are engaged, the waters surrounding the British Isles should become untenable for British ships, the British Fleet would in no event be surrendered or sunk, but would be sent overseas for the defence of other parts of the Empire.

The Government of the United States would respectfully inquire whether the foregoing statement represents the settled policy of the British Government.

The President adopted this version and I sent him the following agreed reply: You ask, Mr. President, whether my statement in Parliament on June 4, 1940, about Great Britain never surrendering or scuttling her fleet "represents the settled policy of His Majesty's Government." I must, however, observe that these hypothetical contingencies seem more likely to concern the German Fleet or what is left of it than our own.

Thus we obtained the 50 American destroyers. We granted 99-year leases of the air and naval bases specified in the West Indies and Newfoundland to the United States. And, thirdly, I repeated my declaration about not scuttling or surrendering the British Fleet, in the form of an assurance to the President, I regarded all these as parallel transactions, and as acts of good will performed on their merits and not as bargains.

The President found it more acceptable to present them to Congress as a connected whole. We neither of us contradicted each other, and both countries were satisfied. The effects in Europe were profound.

With the disappearance of France as a combatant and with Britain set on her struggle for life at home, Mussolini might well feel that his dream of dominating the Mediterranean and rebuilding the former Roman Empire would come true. Relieved from any need to guard against the French in Tunisia, he could still further reinforce the numerous army he had gathered for the invasion of Egypt.

The War Cabinet were determined to defend Egypt against all with whatever resources could be spared from the decisive struggle at home. All the more was this difficult when the Admiralty declared themselves unable to pass even military convoys through the Mediterranean on account of the air dangers. All must go round the Cape. Thus we might easily rob the Battle of Britain without helping the Battle of Egypt. It is odd that, while at the time everyone concerned was quite calm and cheerful, writing about it afterwards makes one shiver.

When Italy declared war on June 10, 1940, the British Intelligence estimated—we now know correctly—that, apart from her garrisons in Abyssinia, Eritrea and Somaliland, there were about 215,000 Italian troops in the North African coastal provinces. These were disposed as follows: Tripolitania, six Metropolitan and two Militia divisions; in Cyrenaica, two Metropolitan and two Militia divisions, besides frontier forces equal to three divisions; a total of 15 divisions.

The British forces in Egypt consisted of the 7th Armoured Division, two-thirds of the 4th Indian Division, one-third of the New Zealand Division, and 14 British battalions and two regiments of the Royal Artillery, grouped in higher formations, the whole amounting to perhaps 50,000 men. From these both the defence of the Western frontier and the internal security of Egypt had to be provided. We therefore had heavy odds against us in the field, and the Italians had also many more aircraft.

400 miles South from Abyssinia towards the Tana River and Nairobi. Considerable Italian forces advanced into British Somaliland. But all these anxieties were petty compared with the Italian invasion of Egypt, which was obviously being prepared on the greatest scale. For some time past Mussolini had been steadily moving his forces Eastwards towards Egypt. Even before the war a magnificent road had been made along the coast from the main base at Tripoli through Tripolitania and Cyrenaica to the Egyptian frontier. Along this road, there had been for many months a swelling stream of military traffic. Large magazines were slowly established and filled at Benghazi, Derna, Tobruk, Bardia and Sollum. The length of this road was over 1,000 miles and all these swarming Italian garrisons and supply depots were strung along it like beads on a string.

The Prize
At the head of the road and near the Egyptian frontier an Italian army of 70,000 or 80,000 men, with a good deal of modern equipment, had been patiently gathered and organised. Before this army entered the prize of the road back to Tripoli; and after that the sea!

If this force, built up in dribs and drabs week by week for years, could advance continually Eastward, conquering all who sought to bar the path, its fortunes would be bright. If it could gain the fertile regions of the Delta all would be about the road back would vanish. On the other hand, if ill-fortune befell it only a few would ever get home.

In the field army and in the series of great supply depots all along the coast there were by the autumn at least 300,000 Italians, who could, even if unmolested, retreat Westward along the road and this they retired many months. And if the battle were lost on the Egyptian border, if the army's front were broken, and if time were not given to them, all were doomed to capture or death. However, in July, 1940, it was not known who was going to win the battle.

Good Road

Our foremost defended position at that time was the railroad at Mersa Matruh. There was a good road Westward to Sidi Barrani, thence to the frontier at Sollum. There was no road considerable maintaining any sort of strong position for long near the frontier. A small covering mechanised force had been formed of some of our finest Regular troops, consisting of the 7th Hussars (light tanks), the 11th Hussars (armoured cars), and two motor battalions of the 60th Rifles and Rifle Brigade, with two regiments of motorised Royal Horse Artillery.

Orders had been given to attack the Italian frontier posts immediately on the outbreak of war. Accordingly, within 24 hours, the 11th Hussars crossed the frontier, took the Italians, who had not heard that war had been declared, by surprise, and captured prisoners. The next night, June 12, they had a similar success, and on June 14, with the 7th Hussars and one company of the 60th Rifles, they captured the frontier forts at Capuzzo and Maddalena, taking 220 prisoners. On the 16th they raided deeper, destroyed 12 tanks, intercepted a convoy on the Tobruk-Bardia road, and captured a general.

In this small but lively warfare our troops felt they had the advantage, and soon conveyed themselves by masters of the desert. Until they came up against large formed bodies or fortified posts they could go where they liked, collecting trophies from sharp encounters. When armies approach each other it makes all the difference which owns only the ground on which it stands or sleeps and which one owns all the rest. I saw this in the Boer War, where we owed nothing beyond the fires of our camps and bivouacs, whereas the Boers rode where they pleased all over the country.

Ever-growing enemy forces were now arriving from the West, and by the middle of July the enemy

had re-established his frontier line with two divisions and elements of two more. The published Italian casualties for the first three months of war were nearly 3,500 men, of whom 700 were prisoners. Our own losses barely exceeded 150. Thus the first phase in the war which Italy had declared upon the British Empire opened favourably for us.

It was proposed by the Middle East Command, under General Wavell, to await the shock of the Italian onslaught near the fortified position of Mersa Matruh.

With the security of our position, this seemed the only course open. I therefore proposed the following tank force to assemble the largest fighting force possible to face the Italian invaders. For this it was necessary to run risks in many other quarters. I was pained to see the dispersal of the forces which were the military authorities. Khartoum and the Blue Nile certainly required strengthening against the Italian Abyssinian border, but what was the sense of keeping 25,000 men, including the Union Brigade of South Africa and two brigades of excellent West African troops, idle in Kenya?

Make Sure

My second preoccupation was to ensure that freedom of movement through the Mediterranean was fought for against the weak Italians and the grave air danger, in order that Malta might be made impregnable. It seemed to me most important to pass military convoys, especially of tanks and guns, through the Mediterranean. Instead of all round the Cape. This seemed a prize, worth many hazards. To send a division from Britain round the Cape to Egypt was to make sure it could not fight anywhere for three months; but these were precious months, and we had very few divisions.

Finally, there was our island, now under pretty direct menace of invasion. How far could we denude our home islands for the sake of the Middle East? I was anxious that the case of the Middle East should be strongly presented by a group of Ministers, all experienced in war and deeply concerned in that theatre. Prime Minister to Sir Edward Bridges, 10, vii, 40.

I think it would be well to set up a small standing Ministerial Committee, consisting of the Secretaries of State for War (Mr. Eden), India (Mr. Amery), and the Colonies (Lord Lloyd), to consult together upon the conduct of the war in the Middle East (in which they are all three concerned), and to advise me, as Minister of Defence, upon the recommendations I should make to the Cabinet. Will you kindly put this into the proper form. The Secretary of State for War has agreed to take the chair.

Mr. Eden reported to his Committee the shortage of troops, equipment, and resources in the Middle East, and that the C.I.G.S. was equally perturbed. The Committee urged the full equipment of the armoured division already in Egypt but far below strength, and also recommended the provision of a second armoured division at the earliest moment when it could be spared from home.

On July 21 Mr. Eden considered that we might be able to spare some tanks in a few weeks' time, and that if they were to reach the Middle East by the end of September we might have to send them and the other equipment through the Mediterranean. In spite of the

rising tension about invasion at home I was in full agreement with all this trend of thought, and brought the extremely harassing choice before the Cabinet several times.

I felt an acute need of talking over the serious events impending in the Libyan desert with General Wavell himself. I had not met this distinguished officer, on whom so much was resting, and I asked the Secretary of State for War to invite him over for a week for consultation when an opportunity could be found. He arrived on August 8. He talked with the Staff and had several long conversations with me and Mr. Eden.

Fine Qualities

The command in the Middle East at that time comprised an extraordinary amalgam of military, political, diplomatic and administrative problems of extreme complexity. It took more than a year of ups and downs for me and my colleagues to learn the need of the dividing the responsibilities of the Middle East between a Commander-in-Chief, a Minister of State and an Intendant-General. While not in full agreement with General Wavell's use of the resources at his disposal, I thought it best to leave him in command. I admired his fine qualities, and was impressed with the confidence so many people had in him.

Good Morning!

Joe Louis says he wants to help any boy who wishes to make a living with his hands. Bakshi and Walcott comment that the champ must have changed his mind since they met him last.

Answer to correspondent who asks: "Is there any accommodation in Hong Kong?" A flat denial.

"Who was the first person to say 'No, no, a thousand times no'?"

"Couldn't say, but we know who was the last, don't we, Molotov?"

"A B-36 can do in a day what it would take whole armies years to accomplish..." If only it could build one little bungalow!

"Children are a comfort, aren't they?"

H'm "Shanghai man takes top honours at dog show."

Followers of Mr. Atlee look forward to the time when the doctrines of Socialism will have spread throughout the inhibited world.

Suffering in silence isn't so bad when everyone knows what you're doing.

A new motor car is said to be practically silent. When overtaking, the horn sneers quietly and the engine breathes a little faster.

Terrorist-plagued members of a leading Kuala Lumpur club are requested to leave their hand grenades at the door. Club servants fear that there would be no time to say, "Excuse me, sir, I think you've dropped something."

"If your steak is too tough for you, get out! This is no place for weaklings." Notice in a New York restaurant.

"Material" is fortune seemed to haunt him. He was half killed in an accident; his house was destroyed by fire, including many valuable manuscripts; he was not employed by the government.

We hear about one sad case of a man with a model railway who gets up at 6.30 each morning to send off the first workmen's train.

It was said of a risqué but slightly inaudible comedian that he could be obscene but not heard.

A sandwich man in London complained that he could find nowhere to live. A board but no lodging?

An American personnel manual carries this revealing sentence: "The death of an employee automatically ends his employment."

There is not much chance of peace in China. Even if a coalition were set up, it would scarcely be strong enough to survive a U.N. mediation.

One dowager to another, at concert. "This is my favourite. Let's not even talk."

A defeated boxer was asked by an acquaintance to give an account of the fight. It was the old story, he said. "I hit him, he hit me. I hit him, he hit me, he hit me, he hit me..."

"Three men held in Cigarette Case." Really...

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DO YOU KNOW YOUR HONG KONG?

Can you recognise where this picture was taken? The answer is in Page Seven.



Western Union Powers Confer

Special Two-Day Session Of Consultative Council

Will See Iceland Minister

Washington, March 15. Iceland's Foreign Minister called on U.S. Secretary of State Mr. Dean Acheson on Monday to learn first hand what it would mean for his strategic country to join the Atlantic defence alliance.

M. Bjarni Benediktsson, Foreign Minister of the tiny island Republic, particularly wanted to know about the role that would be assigned to Iceland if it joins.

Other top State Department officials made plans to invite Italy and Portugal into the growing Atlantic pact as the eleventh and twelfth members, possibly before the week ends.

M. Benediktsson talked with Mr. Acheson for 40 minutes. Afterward, he went into conference with Mr. Charles E. Bohlen, the State Department's Russian expert, and with Mr. John Hickerson, head of the European Affairs Division.

Acheson said he plans to stay in Washington about three days before returning to Iceland to tell Parliament there the results of his mission.

A few hours earlier, the Danish Foreign Minister, Mr. Gustav Rasmussen, had personally presented the State Department with a list of the military equipment Denmark wants if it links up with the Atlantic bloc, as expected.

Denmark's final decision is expected to influence Iceland's course. Until a few years ago, Iceland was part of Denmark.

In talking with reporters at the State Department, Rasmussen made it clear he sought no promises but merely wanted to sound out the U.S. about his country's military needs.

"I must say the American officials listened very attentively and sympathetically to what we explained," he said.

Rasmussen declined to say anything about it, but it was learned that the amount of arms and the military plans involving Greenland figured greatly in his talks with the State Department. It was his third day of conversations since arriving on Friday.

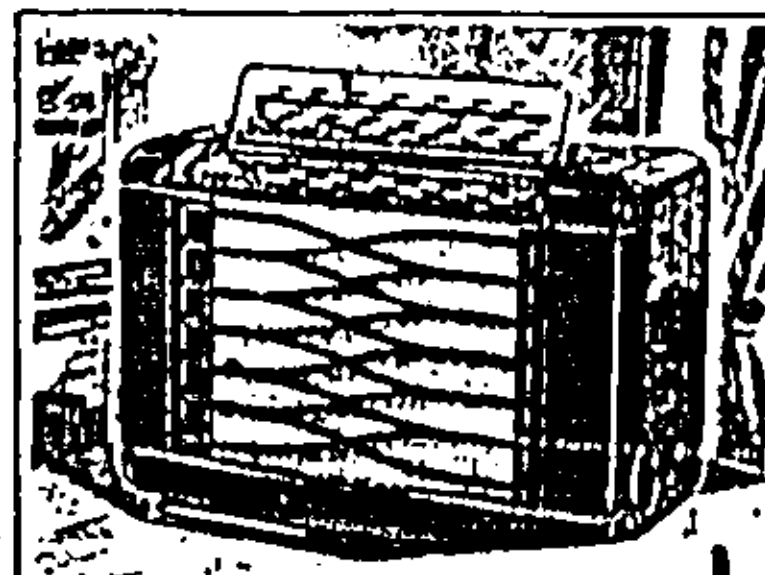
The Danish Foreign Minister outlined his country's defence picture to Assistant Secretary of State Mr. Ernest R. Gross, who is in charge of drafting the administration's plan to give American arms and equipment to member countries of the Atlantic Alliance. Mr. Gross is drawing up a bill which calls for Congress to appropriate from \$1,000 million to \$1,500 million for arms, ammunition, transport equipment, quartermaster supplies, aircraft and naval supplies. Associated Press.

Truman News Reels Banned

Key West, Florida, March 14. White House officials today confiscated news reel films of President Truman swimming, taken by cameramen flying over a beach at the naval base here, where the President is on holiday.

The President's press secretary, Mr. Charles Ross, meeting the photographers when they landed after a flight in a Navy airship asked: "Are you not interested in the President's security?" They told Mr. Ross the Navy had given permission for the pictures to be taken. —Reuter.

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DEFENCE PROBED

London, March 14. The Foreign Ministers, together with the Defence and Finance Ministers, of the five Western Union powers, opening a two-day special session of the Union's Consultative Council here today, were believed to have discussed the Atlantic Pact and related defence matters.

Observers thought that among the matters discussed today was the procedure and timing for participation in the Atlantic Alliance of Norway, Denmark, Italy, Iceland and Portugal.

The consideration of defence estimates was expected to take up some time on both days of the session. Questions on the proposed Council of Europe will come up tomorrow.

The United States, it was understood, will be kept closely informed of the discussions through Mr. Lewis Douglas, the United States Ambassador in London, and General Marshall S. Carter, nominated today as Special Assistant to Mr. Douglas for the "development and co-ordination of the military assistance programmes."

The British and French Foreign Ministers, Mr. Ernest Bevin and M. Robert Schuman, are both expected to meet Mr. Douglas during the session, it was learned from a usually reliable source tonight.

Since Mr. Douglas was entrusted with the European end of the discussions on dismantling in Western Germany after his visit to Washington last December and January, M. Schuman was expected to take the opportunity of having a personal talk with him on this question.

Scope Of Agenda

The two-day extraordinary session opened at Lancaster House today with a four-point agenda covering:

1. Atlantic Union.
2. The Council of Europe.
3. The report of the Secretary-General of the Western Union on defence.
4. The report of the social and cultural aspects of the Western Union.

Following a precedent established at previous Consultative Council meetings, a single joint communiqué is expected at the end of the session.

In view of the imminent signature of the Atlantic Pact in Washington and the obvious link now connecting Western Union Defence and the Atlantic Union, it is understood that the United States will be kept closely and immediately informed of the results of today's and tomorrow's discussion through Mr. Douglas.

Today's announcement from the United States Embassy of General Carter's nomination as Special Assistant to Mr. Douglas for the "development and co-ordination of military assistance programmes" emphasises the direct tie-up between defence planning in Washington and the military organisations of the Western Union.

The Council will have before it the first proposals for the Council of Europe, elaborated in London in the Permanent Commission of the Western Union.

The Foreign Ministers were to study these proposals in detail on March 20, but their departure for Washington for the signature of the Atlantic Alliance has resulted in this study being undertaken by senior officials instead.

But the Foreign Ministers will have to take the final decisions before the first session of the Council of Europe is summoned. For this purpose, it is expected that they will assemble in

Europe, either in London or Paris, as soon as possible after their return from the United States.

Talks On Pact

In Washington today, the Icelandic Foreign Minister, M. Bjarni Benediktsson, conferred for 40 minutes with Mr. Dean Acheson, the Secretary of State, on the terms of the North Atlantic Pact.

Immediately afterwards, the Foreign Minister had a discussion with two State Department officials, Mr. Charles Bohlen, Counselor, and Mr. John Hickerson, Director of European Affairs.

He made no statement to the press between the meetings. The Icelandic Foreign Minister was accompanied by the Commerce Minister, M. Emil Johnsson, and M. Thor Thors, Icelandic Ambassador in Washington.

In the House of Commons today, Mr. Hector McNeill, Minister of State, told a questioner that the Foreign Secretary, Mr. Ernest Bevin, certainly did not wish to exclude economic questions from the discussion of the proposed European Consultative Assembly.

Mr. McNeill added that it would be necessary to ensure the new organisation did not duplicate the work of existing organisations, as the Organisation for European Economic Co-operation.

Mr. William Warby, Labour, had proposed that the Consultative Assembly should be competent to discuss economic questions. —Reuter.

NO SUPPLY OF JEEPS TO ARABS

London, March 14. Mr. George Strauss, the Minister of Supply, today denied that the British Stores Disposal Mission had supplied jeeps to the Arab Legion.

Mr. Frederick Erroll, Conservative, asked in the House of Commons if Mr. Strauss knew that the Arab Legion had "200 jeeps in first class working condition, which had been supplied by the Mission."

Mr. Strauss replied: "No jeep has been supplied by the British Stores Disposal Mission to the Arab Legion. All stores handled by the Mission have already been declared by the British forces as surplus to their needs." —Reuter.

Grandmother Joan Bennett

Hollywood, March 14. The film star, Joan Bennett, aged 39, is now a grandmother.

A seven-pound girl was born last night to Joan's eldest daughter, Diana Anderson, who is married to an aircraft parts manufacturer. —Reuter.

Signing Of Pact Due In April

Washington, March 14.

A high United States official today said the Foreign Ministers of all nations intending to sign the Atlantic Pact were expected to arrive here early in April for signing ceremony. April 2 is being considered as the appropriate date, but no decision has been taken so far.

The official said all nations wanting to join the pact could be assured that the signatory powers did not intend in peace time to use the bases of any signatories outside of the Western Hemisphere unless the nation was willing to provide them. It was believed this would prove reassuring to the Icelandic Minister, Mr. Bjarni Benediktsson, when he visits the Secretary of State, Mr. Dean Acheson, later today.

The Danish Foreign Minister, Mr. Gustav Rasmussen, held a conference on Denmark's armed needs in the office of the Assistant Secretary of State, Mr. Ernest Gross, at 11.30 a.m. EST, accompanied by the Ambassador, Mr. Kauffman, a special adviser, Mr. Frants Hass, a counselor, Mr. P. Bang-Jensen, Major-General C. J. Forsyand and the naval attaché, Commodore Fritz Kjoel-sen.

The State Department counselor, Mr. Charles Bohlen of the Office of European foreign Affairs, Mr. John Hickerson, chief of the division of Northern European Affairs, and Mr. Benjamin Hulley and Mr. George Broom of the Danish desk participated with experts from the National Defence Department.

It was understood Mr. Rasmussen brought with him to this conference a list of Denmark's essential arms needs. Mr. Rasmussen told the United Press: "I expect to see Mr. Acheson tomorrow morning and to leave tomorrow afternoon or evening by train for New York. There I take a plane on Wednesday to Copenhagen. I hope to see the Icelandic Foreign Minister, Mr. Benediktsson, later today for an exchange of views."

Mr. Benediktsson is scheduled to see Mr. Acheson this afternoon and hopes to receive assurances that the United States and other prospective signatories of the Atlantic Pact do not require Icelandic bases in peacetime. —United Press.

Clothes Rationing Ended In Britain

London, March 14.

The end of clothes rationing in Britain, was announced in the House of Commons today. From tomorrow, people will be able to buy any clothing or textile without coupons, which they have had to use for the last eight years.

The President of the Board of Trade, Mr. Harold Wilson's, announcement was greeted with Government cries of "Bravo" and—from the Opposition—"What a coincidence"—a reference to the forthcoming Parliamentary bye-election at Sowerby, Yorkshire.

Mr. Wilson, making the announcement in the House of Commons today, called it "Operation Godiva." He told a press conference later that he would make further contributions to the "general bonfire of controls" within the next few days.

The official ending of Britain's wartime controls followed limited concessions granted earlier by the Board of Trade. Mr. Wilson told his press conference that general clothes de-rationing had been planned on a top secret basis for some time "under the general title of Operation Godiva."

Lady Godiva, according to legend, rode naked through the streets of Coventry in the 11th-century.

Mr. Wilson said he made his decision after he was satisfied, from consultations with his Clothing Industry Advisory Committee, that supply and demand were reasonably well balanced.

Prices and the prior demands of the nation's export drive will still limit Britons in replenishing their threadbare wardrobes.

Mr. Wilson said he was satisfied that, taking clothing as a whole, demand and supply were in reasonable balance. Home supplies would not be increased at the expense of exports. The necessary measures to ensure the allocation of textiles required for the full export targets would remain.

Nor would there be any change in Britain's requirements of dollar raw materials as a result of the decision to end rationing. "The export drive in textiles must continue to be pressed with the utmost vigour," Mr. Wilson said. "This action does not mean an abundance of clothing—indeed, some items remain in short supply in the home market."

Mr. Wilson said higher prices, due mainly to increases in the price of imported raw materials, were themselves a restraint on buying. He estimated that the decision to end rationing would mean a direct saving of 10,000 workers for the Government departments and 9,000 for the trade.

Mr. Oliver Stanley, for the Opposition, congratulated Mr. Wilson in overcoming his "indecision"—whether to end rationing or not—in time for Wednesday's bye-election.

Mr. Wilson retorted: "If this announcement had been related in any way to bye-elections, it would have been made two or three weeks ago—when a whole series of elections were pending." —Reuter.

DO YOU KNOW YOUR HONG KONG?

The photo shows the Chinese "pal" type of gateway, between the tennis hard courts and lawn courts at the Chinese Recreation Club, Causeway Bay.

To Check Reds In Big Cities

London, March 14.

The General Council of the Trades Union Congress tonight served notice on Communists that they will be routed out from positions in which they may influence trade union policy and activity in this country's big cities and towns.

A new TUC document, circulated to all affiliated member unions—their membership is almost 8,000,000—foreshadowed action against some local trades councils. These councils are composed of delegates from each trade union branch and speak for organised trade unionism in the localities.

"The General Council cannot avoid taking a serious view of the non-representative character of certain trades councils and of the effect which this handful has on the prestige and standing of trade councils as a whole," the Congress stated tonight.

"In respect of those trade councils which may be reported as having lost their representative capacity, or who are no longer able to carry out the function undertaken at the date of registration—of acting as the agent of the TUC—the General Council will make enquiries."

"Where these enquiries lead to the conclusion that a reorganisation is necessary, that course will be adopted." —Reuter.

British Advice For Turkey

London, March 14.

Britain announced today that she will advise Turkey on food growing projects so the Turks can eventually sell more food to Britain.

The Ministry of Food said it has agreed with the Turkish Government to send a group of British experts to Ankara to discuss with the Turkish authorities on long term projects for agricultural development in Turkey with a view to increasing future exports of food to the United Kingdom. —Associated Press.

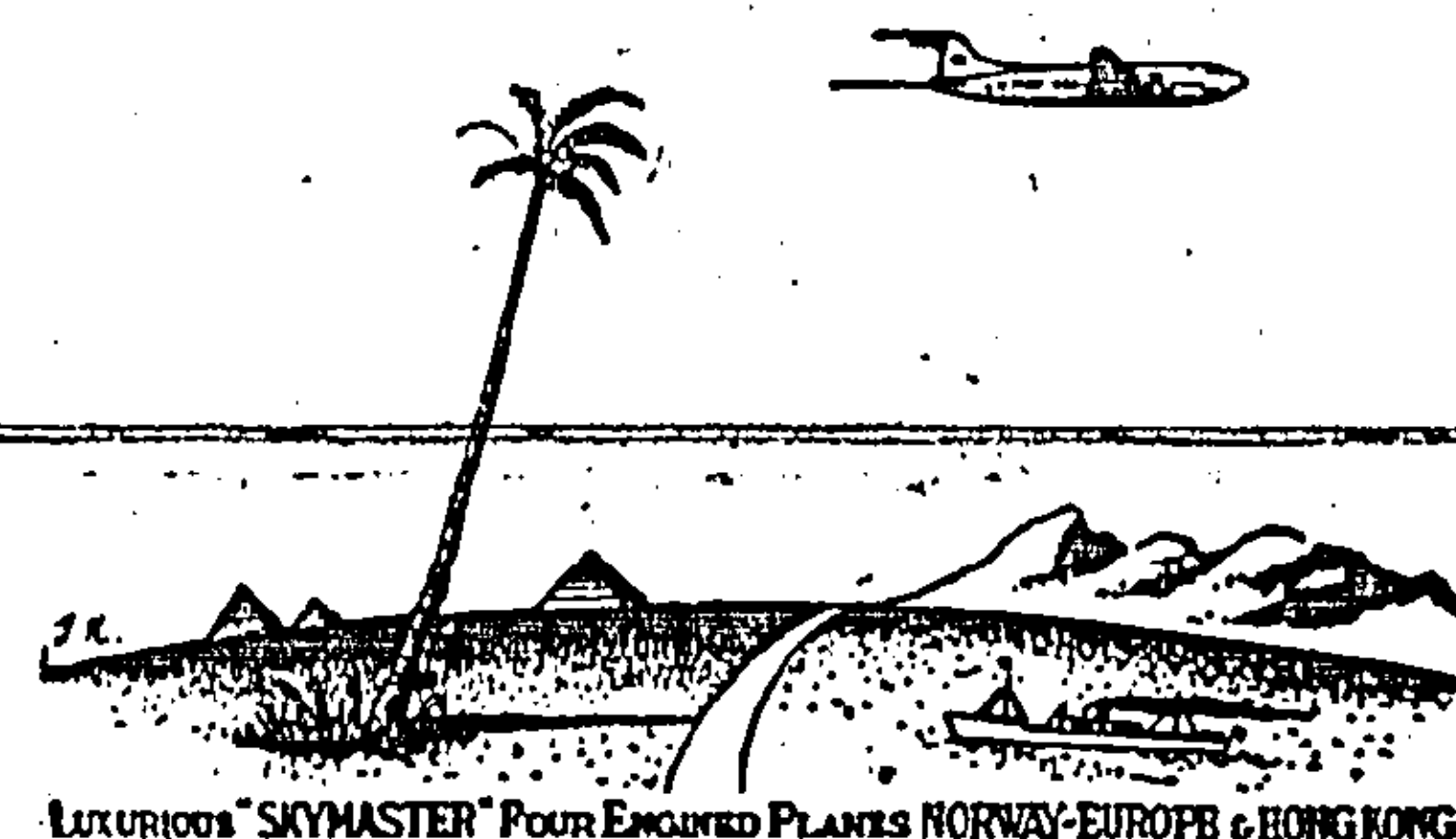
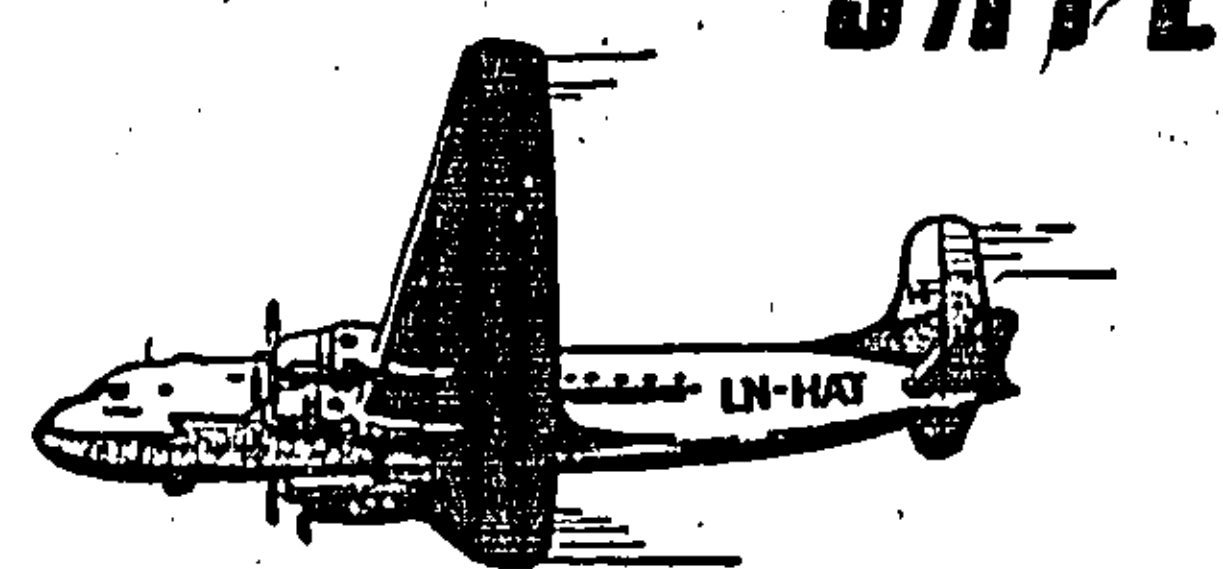
KOREAN DRIVE

Seoul, March 14.

Combined reports from police and the Army said today that at least 77 Communist-led guerrillas were killed during the past week in the mountains of South Korea. Police and the Army, who are intensifying a drive on the guerrillas in the mountains, said they had fought several engagements with the rebels. Fifty-three were reported killed in one fight. —Associated Press.

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Woman Today

Fashions At A Paris Restaurant



By
Winefrido
Jackson

In Paris women are once again dressing smartly for dinner. The evening hat, for instance, is an important accessory. This dinner scene was sketched by Harland the other evening at the Tour d'Argent, smartest restaurant in Paris, visited by Princess Elizabeth during her stay in the capital.

Necklace fashions have changed during the last six months. The multiple choker is replaced by long, knotted strings of pearls, long bead necklaces in two or three colours, or the loosely-tied pearl tie shown on right. Brilliants in several colours are fashioned into necklaces resembling Vandyke lace collars. One of the most charming ideas—and simple for the Englishwoman to copy—is sketched on left. Satin ribbon entwines the neck, finishing in a bow at the ribbon ends sewn with a fringe of pearls.

The side-tilted beret, in centre, and bow of the handbag are in matching material embroidered in pearls and paillettes. The new evening fashion for plainest of wrist-length gloves is particularly useful and dainty. The young lady sketched above had hers made in satin to match the material of beret and ribbon-bow handbag. Juliet caps are back in fashion. We chose the one above because it was different, with its cut-out crescent through which the hair was brushed into a flat curl.

SUMMER FURS

The vogue for summer furs is developing rapidly in Britain. The introduction of stoles probably accentuated it, but furriers now are also using light-weight soft furs like ermine and squirrel for loose capes and caped coats which can be worn over the most fragile dress without any danger of crushing it.

We may in fact look back on 1949 as the year when the revival of the stole—more accessory than it is—was an outstanding influence on the fashion of the moment. For not only can it be made to look important in itself, but it lends importance, as well as dignity, to a dress, and it was inevitable that furriers should interpret it in fine furs. Fox furs in different shades—white, platinum, blue—were first used and with success, but these were found by many young women to be a trifle difficult to wear.

On the other hand, a wide soft scarf of mink or ermine or squirrel beautifully enwraps the



In this silver blue mink stole by Calman Links of London, the shading of the pelts, their suppleness and lightness, show to best advantage against a summer gown.

shoulders and not only sets off a delicate dress—but accents a well-coiffured shining head.

But the stole is not every woman's choice, and the cape is growing in popularity. Here again, stranded skins can be used to perfection with bands of skin forming a border and coming to a point in the centre of the back.

Women who prefer it will choose the short full jacket designed, perhaps with a three-fold back and made of carefully chosen, beautifully shaded and worked skins. A model by Calman Link in wild mink has at least three fashion features which are worthy of note.

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SLENDER STYLE TRENDS

By Barbara E. Scott Fisher

After the revolution—the calm. Spring fashions, thinking better of last year's extravaganzas, will move in with such slight changes you'll hardly be aware of their entrance.

Collections appear to vie with each other in a lack of drastic changes. The most noticeable feature is the slimming of the silhouette, from the trim "little" look of heads to delicately slim shell slippers.

This does not mean that skirts will be skimpy in yardage. But though ample fabric is used, the effect is definitely on the straight side.

Skirts for daytime hover anywhere between 12 to 14 inches from the floor, growing longer as the hour grows later. Shoulders continue rounded, generally, with deftly handled though almost imperceptible padding. Ben Rog announces unequivocally that "broad shoulders are positively in for 1949."

Feminine Look Continues

Coat lines with the newest look are straight and narrow, with an inclination to echo the slim, rather short-waisted fashions worn between 1921 and 1925. The mood is genteel and entirely feminine. Throughout the entire fashion picture the delicacy of the Directoire period leaves its light, rather frivolous, imprint.

You see it in higher waistlines, in large sleeves which minimise the bust and waist, and often start from an off-shoulder line. It is marked by the continued use of stoles which began this fall in furs and carry on into spring with fabrics.

Distinctive in feeling, too, is the attractive short jacket which appears in many versions, from the brief bolero that fits snugly to the short Empire jacket with fly-away back. Chiffons and sheer, crisp fabrics appear in frequent favour, and the slim silhouette keeps the mood light and airy. Yet, with the noticeable lack of daring extremes in the new fashions, you can still count on change. Each collection is fashioned from an individual viewpoint. Still each separate piece of the jigsaw puzzle finds its perfect niche in a fashion season of much distinction.

Lively Variety

Freedom of expression in the field of American fashion brings into focus a mosaic of lively variety. With characteristic independence Valentina declares, "1949 will bring the kind of clothes freedom that means you can wear anything you want, just so everything you need for three months can be packed into two suitcases."

Yet, with the noticeable lack of daring extremes in the new fashions, you can still count on change. Each collection is fashioned from an individual viewpoint. Still each separate piece of the jigsaw puzzle finds its perfect niche in a fashion season of much distinction.

Following somewhat the same line of reasoning, Clara Potter believes that clothes for all purposes will be slimmer in 1949. The essential part of a costume will be form-fitting, she believes, with the movement in accessories, for women have discovered how to wear stoles gracefully, along with hats, handbags, and gloves. Designers are making it easy to put on a dress and forget all about it, a fashion feature women are coming vastly to appreciate.

Entirely Practical

One year slides into another without appreciable break in the Pauline Trigere collections, and because she is entirely practical, this designer purposefully avoids drastic changes in silhouette. Her 1949 collection is done in a light, soft mood and costumes present an easy, all-in-one look.

Jane Derby features the exit of the "little black dress" in her very ladylike collection. "I feel," she says, "that this has become an unattractive uniform with us, and that women today much prefer being individual in their choice of clothes and colours." Straight, slim lines, without exaggeration, are featured throughout this collection.

Fabric is the core of every collection. Adele Simpson goes so far as to predict that the success story of the year will be written about fabric.

Because of the many beautiful fabrics available she feels the new fashions will express great variety and freshness, though there will be no drastic change. She agrees with Jane Derby that the "basic black dress" is doomed, and indicates that it is the wonderful variety of attractive fabrics which have finished it off.

Suitings Are Exceptions

Brooks Cadwalader, whose interestingly designed fabrics appear in many top collections, predicts a general tendency towards the feminine in both colouring and pattern, with, of course, the exception of suitings. Those prints which lend themselves to the sweep of soft drapery will prove highly successful. Wesley Simpson predicts fashions and fabrics "of gossamer lightness. Polka dots will be particularly good."

Skirts will be draped at unpredictable points, the Tina Leser collection strongly hints. Drapery at the hemline will be used as effectively as it is to soften an off-shoulder neckline.

Chaire McCordell gives us two outlines for next season's silhouettes. One is soft, the other stiff. There's an "up-in-front" movement in the soft silhouette, while the stiff one leans to a full skirt and a tight waist. Both have baseline interest, both definite movement.

Slippers and shoes will follow the trend toward the light and airy. Mabel and Charles Julianelli find footwear near the vanishing point with "hardly any shoe at all."

Pumps and sandals will be dainty, many of them mere shells held by a single string. Toes will be closed. Squared toes and low heels will continue the Empire trend. The pump will hold its lead as the most popular type of shoe, but even this will emerge with a new lightness.

RECIPE

Apple Flour

6 oz. shortcrust pastry, 4 apples, strip of thinly peeled lemon rind, 2 oz. shortening, juice 1 lemon, 1/2 gill water, whipped cream or mock cream, carmine.

Roll out the pastry and line a seven-inch sandwich tin. Trim the edges, pinch a frill around, prick well and bake in a hot oven, temp. 425 deg. F. gas, 475 deg. F. electric, until golden brown, 15 to 20 minutes. Turn out and allow to cool. Wash the apples. Cut into quarters and remove the core. Place into a saucepan with the lemon rind and juice, water and sufficient sugar to taste. Simmer gently until soft. Rub through a sieve. Add the shortening and beat well. Pile into the centre of the cooked pastry case. Colour half the cream or mock cream pale pink and decorate the top of the flour with pink and white roses.

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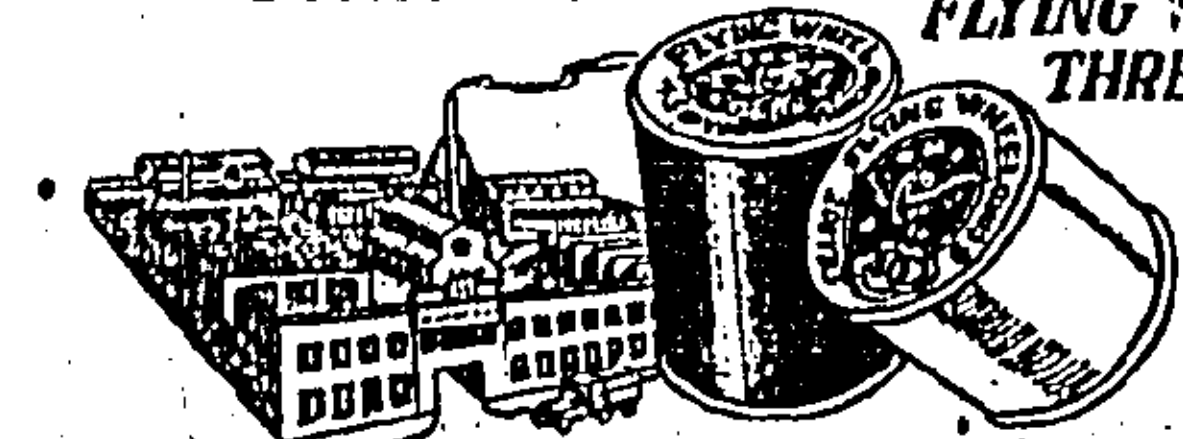
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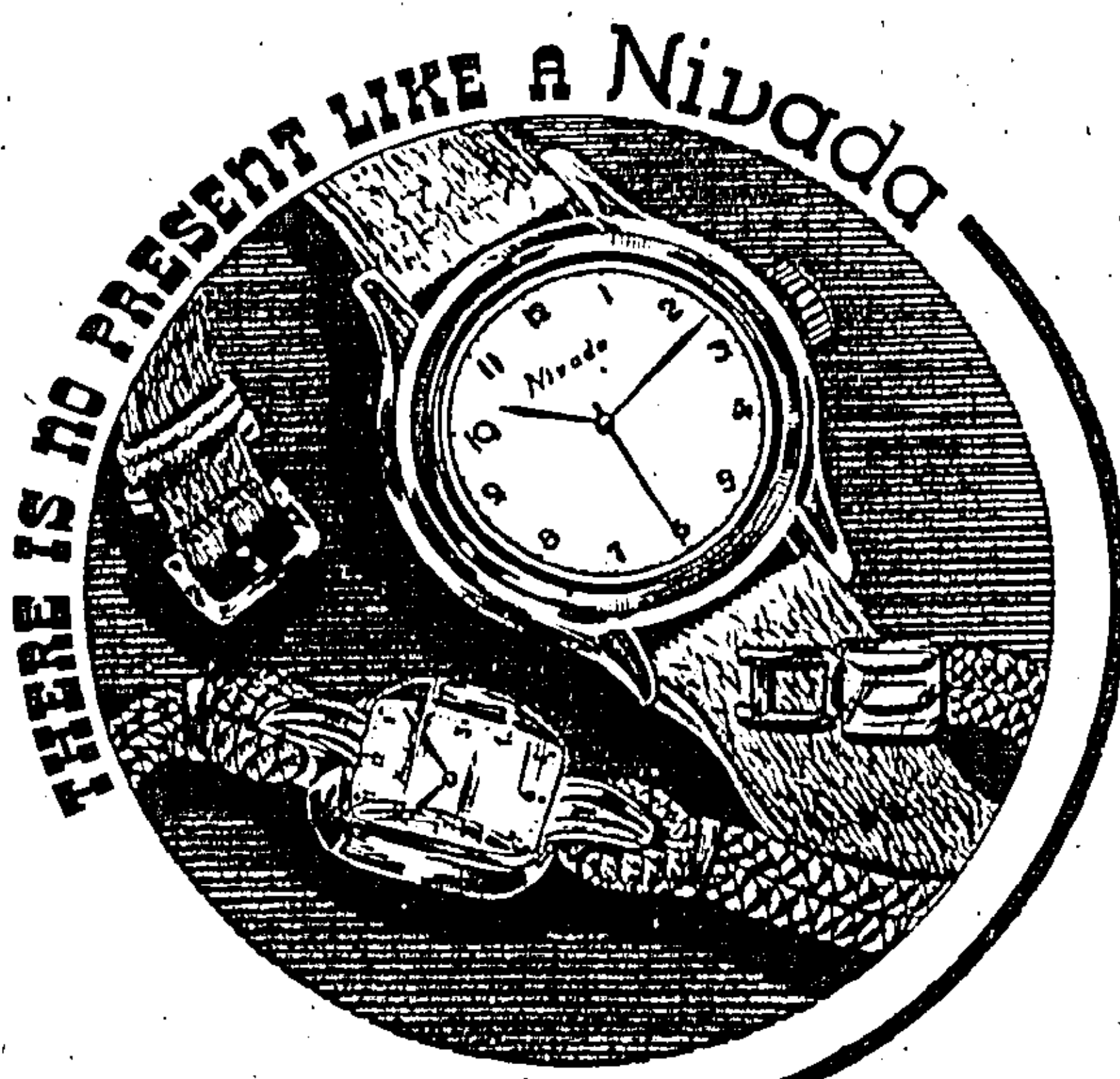
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INDONESIA THREATENS TO SETTLE ISSUE ON BATTLEFIELD

No Statement On King's Condition

London, March 14. King George VI's doctors returned to Buckingham Palace tonight for a short period, but no official statement on his health was issued.

It was understood the King was continuing to make normal progress in recovering from the operation carried out last Saturday to increase the flow of blood to his foot.

An official bulletin today said the King's condition "remained satisfactory," adding that he slept most of last night and that his post-operative discomfort was lessening.

The King's operation—the inverting of a lumbar nerve controlling the flow of blood to the right leg—followed medical treatment which had extended over several months.—Reuter.

Reds Plan Anti-Pact Agitation

Rome, March 14. Political circles in Rome believe the Communist-led National Labour Confederation, representing 6,000,000 workers, will urge a nationwide general protest strike if Italy signs the Atlantic Pact.

The Federation's Executive is meeting here tonight to decide its policy. The independent Trade Union Confederation today ordered its 800,000 members not to take part in "anti-democratic" demonstrations against the Pact.

The Minister of the Interior, Signor Mario Scelba, has stated clearly that any attempts to create public disorder will be firmly repressed.

Political commentators think the Government will probably obtain a majority of about 200 in the Chamber of Deputies for its Atlantic Pact policy. Twenty deputies are still due to speak and the debate is expected to last until tomorrow or Wednesday before it goes to the Senate.

Some observers think the Communists and their sympathisers will try to get the 500,000 voters' signature which would permit them, under the Constitution, to demand a referendum on the Pact. The Constitution, however, excludes from a referendum the ratification of international treaties.

The Prime Minister, Signor Alcide de Gasperi, today received Signor Cesare Merzagora, Minister for Foreign Commerce, who asked to give up his portfolio and devote himself to private affairs. It was agreed that he should leave the matter over until the Atlantic Pact debate ended.

Signor de Gasperi also received separately Signor Giuseppe Saragat, and Signor Ivan Matteo Lombardo, with whom it was believed he discussed the attitude of the right wing Socialists to the Atlantic Pact.

Police armoured cars stood by in Milan tonight against any attempt to stage large-scale anti-Atlantic Pact demonstrations. Police guards around the British and United States Consulates were reinforced.

A number of people were detained following clashes with the police as they fixed anti-pact and anti-Government posters—banned by the prefecture—on the city's walls.

In Turin tonight, a crowd estimated at 20,000 attempted an anti-pact demonstration in the centre of the city and heard a Communist Senator, Signor Celeste Negarville, declare that popular opinion in the streets, with democratic methods, would prevail over Parliament.—Reuter.

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Commons Probe Taiwan Issue

London, March 14. The future of the island of Taiwan, which was ceded to Japan in 1895 and returned to China after World War II, was raised at question time in the House of Commons today.

Mr. William Teeling, Conservative, asked what steps had been taken to see that no other Government than the Chinese Government, recognised by Great Britain and the United States, took control of Taiwan until a peace treaty with Japan had been signed.

Mr. Hector McNair, Minister of State, replied: "None as far as the British Government are concerned. Any such steps could only be taken on the basis of consultation among the powers concerned."—Reuter.

Menace Of Reds In Far East

London, March 14. Official sources today said the forthcoming Commonwealth discussions on the Communist menace in Asia would include talks about the status of "all nations having an interest in the Far East threatened by Communist aggression."

One official added: "If a regional defence system is to be devised, it would logically have to include Australia, New Zealand, Malaya, Hong Kong, the Philippines, Siam, Indonesia, Indo-China, Pakistan, India and Ceylon."

He said such a regional pact would inevitably be discussed with the United States, "who would doubtless welcome any concerted action to meet the Communist threat in the Far East."

Official quarters said one of the big questions was how an Indian republic could be fitted into any Pacific pact in view of Mr. Jawaharlal Nehru's aversion to military alliances.

Indian sources here said Indian alignment with any Western regional defence scheme "would be likely to provoke Russia," but they pointed out that Mr. Nehru had qualified his recent Parliament statement by saying India would be amenable to "consultation and cooperation in resisting interference."—United Press.

Mr. Chow Ching-shih, secretary of the North East Communist Revolutionary Bureau in Mukden under the Nationalist regime, left Mukden on February 11 and after three weeks of travelling through Red-held territory arrived here today.

He said the Russians have made the Mukden Railway Hotel their residential headquarters. He could not give a definite estimate of how many Soviet technicians assisting the Chinese Reds in rebuilding Manchurian industrial economy but said there were a great number.

Mr. Chow confirmed earlier reports that the American Consulate in Mukden where Mr. Angus Ward is Consul-General is practically isolated and under guard while British consular officials are allowed more freedom. There is no Soviet Consulate in Mukden, only a Soviet Commercial Attache.

Mr. Chow said the North East Political Bureau which was originally established in Harbin has been moved to Mukden. The NPB is the highest ruling organ of the Chinese Reds in the North East and is presided over by Lin Feng. In Harbin, said Mr. Chow, a City Council has been set up by the Reds but a similar one has not been established in Mukden as yet.

Only two newspapers are printed in Mukden—the North East Railway and the Workers' Daily—both devoted fully to Communist doctrines and enunciations.

All Nationalist municipal officials above the rank of section chief have been dismissed from their jobs. Those of lower rank are retained and given special training in classes held from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily.

Public order is strictly enforced, increased in price greatly while the cost of rice and kowling have said Mr. Chow. Commodities have been brought down.—United Press.

Communique Lists Week's Casualties In Java, Sumatra

Batavia, March 14. More than 400 Dutch and Indonesians were killed in the past week in the bitter warfare between Dutch troops and guerrilla forces in Java and Sumatra.

The Dutch Army's weekly military summary today listed 31 soldiers of the Dutch Army killed and 3 missing.

It gave no exact figures of the losses suffered by guerrilla bands but the number listed as "destroyed" in scattered actions totalled some 370.

Most of the fierce battles were in East Java where an "armed group of some 200 men were destroyed by Dutch troops near Bangli on March 7". Army headquarters said.

Several hundred guerrillas were killed in other East Java actions near Tjepoe, Ngawi, Madiun, Magetan and Pongoro.

The communique said: "In all other regions in East Java, Dutch troops acted vigorously against the remnants of terror groups mainly operating in regions South of Malang and Besuki."

The Dutch Army said that in central Java intense patrolling continues with several actions against "rather strongly armed groups."

A band of 70 irregulars was wiped out near Bobotsari on March 4. Other actions took place chiefly around Jogjakarta, Magelang, Banjarnegara and Kebumen.

The Army reported successful clearing actions in most of Central Java, except the area around Brebes and Pekalongan where new guerrilla forces have sprung up.

130 Surrender

In the West Java state of Pasundan, 130 men of the Republican crack Siliwangi Division gave themselves up, according to the Dutch Army. A spokesman said that surrender negotiations continue between civil officials in Pasundan and several leaders of the Siliwangi Division, which is considered the best armed Republican army group.

"In the whole area of Pasundan, Dutch troops have acted against roaming gangs guilty of kidnapping and shooting at vehicles," the spokesman said. He announced that "Dutch troops have intensively patrolled all regions in Sumatra, inflicting heavy losses on terror groups, mainly operating in central Sumatra. The gangs, operating in the mountains are running short of food and suffering from diseases."

From Soekaboemi it was reported today that strong guerrilla forces early morning drove to the centre of that central Java city and burned 10 shops before withdrawing under Dutch army fire.

At least one Dutch soldier was killed and four wounded.

The guerrillas used petrol to fire the shops, which were mostly Chinese-owned.

The Dutch garrison brought mortars and Bren guns into the battle to drive off the attackers. One estate guard was killed and several wounded when guerrillas ambushed a truck near Soekaboemi on Saturday night.

(Soekaboemi is an important estate centre 60 miles South of Batavia. It has been under Dutch control since the first Dutch police action in the summer of 1947.)—Associated Press.

Kerensky's Anti-Soviet Committee

New York, March 15. A group of 25 Russian expatriates organised a committee yesterday for the announced purpose of "liberating Russia from the Communist dictatorship."

The group includes Alexander F. Kerensky, Premier of the Provisional Government of Russia following the overthrow of the Czar in 1917.

Another member is Victor Chernov, President of the Constituent Assembly dissolved by Lenin in February, 1918.

The group adopted the name "Union for the Liberation of the People of Russia."

The Committee announced its objectives as:

1—Abolition of the Communist Party and of all organs of dictatorship and terror.
2—Abolition of all concentration camps and the liberation of all political prisoners.
3—Freeing from police supervision of all intellectual, artistic, political and religious life, including the press.
4—Establishment of tuition-free education in all schools.—Associated Press.

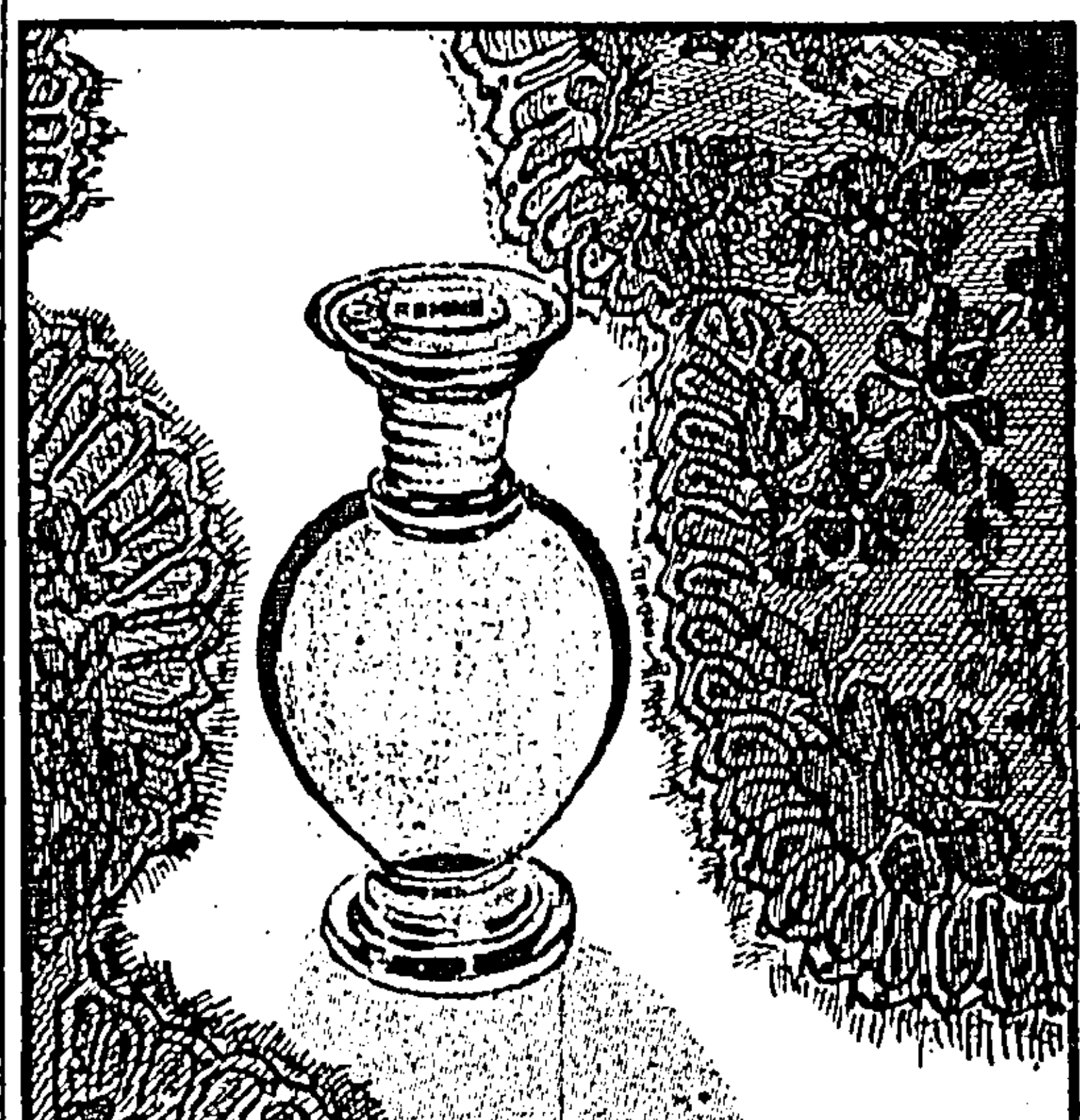
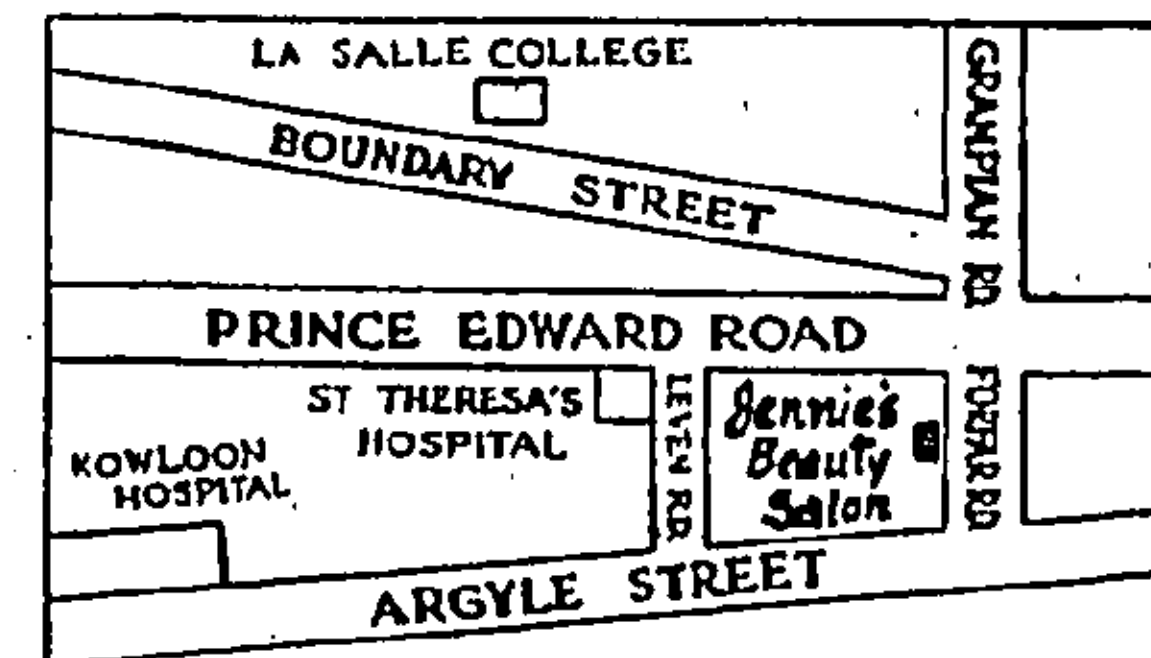


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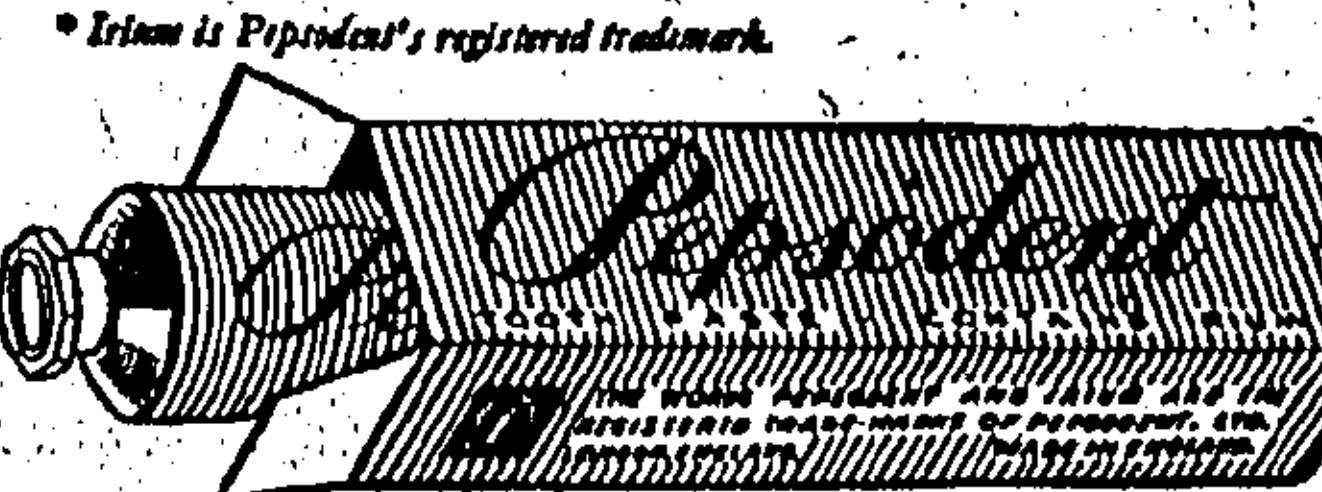
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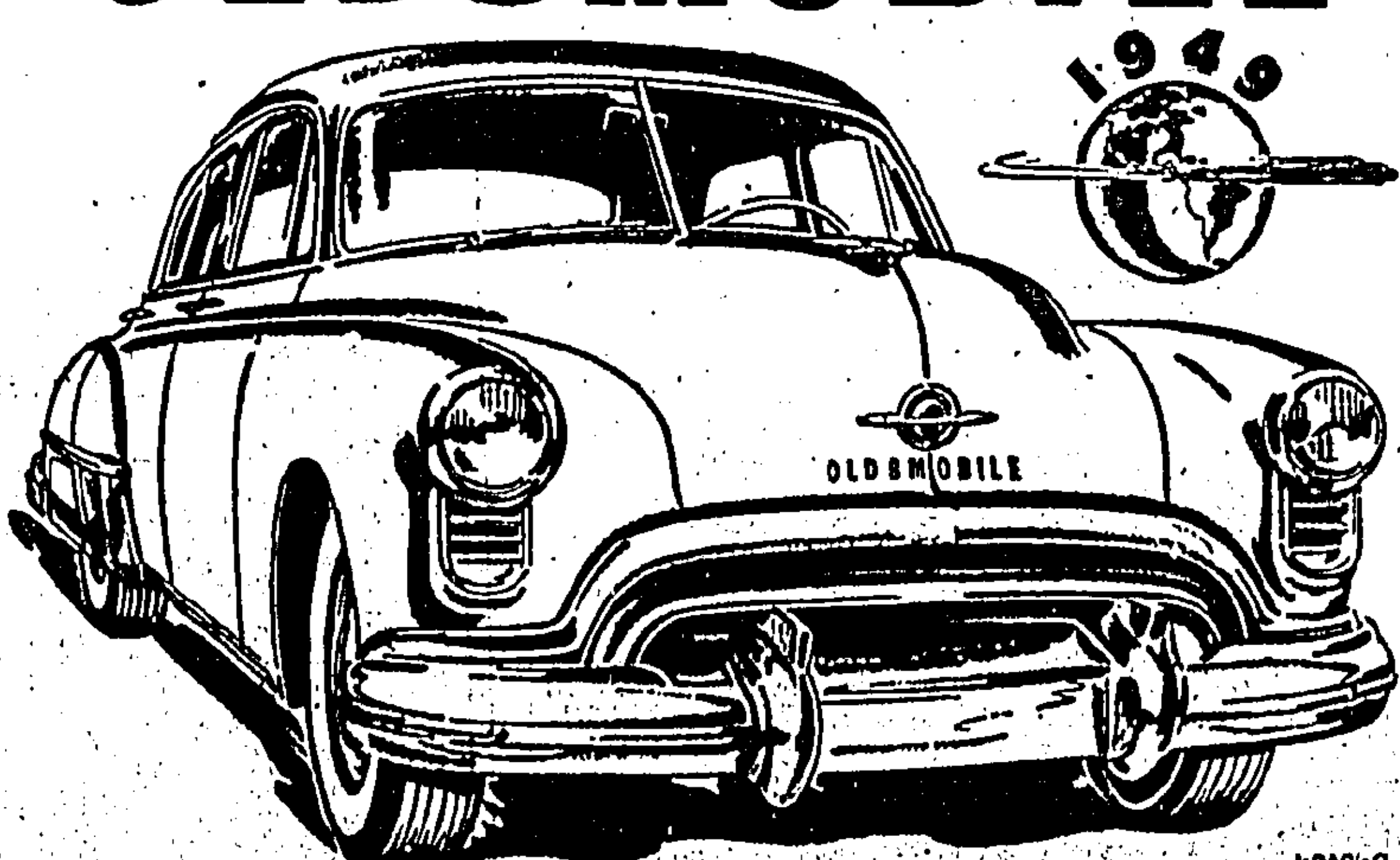
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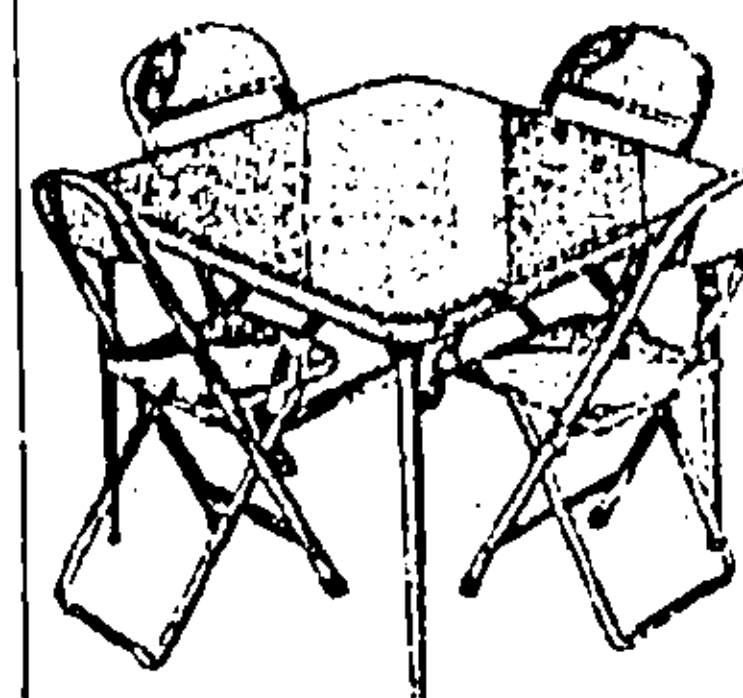
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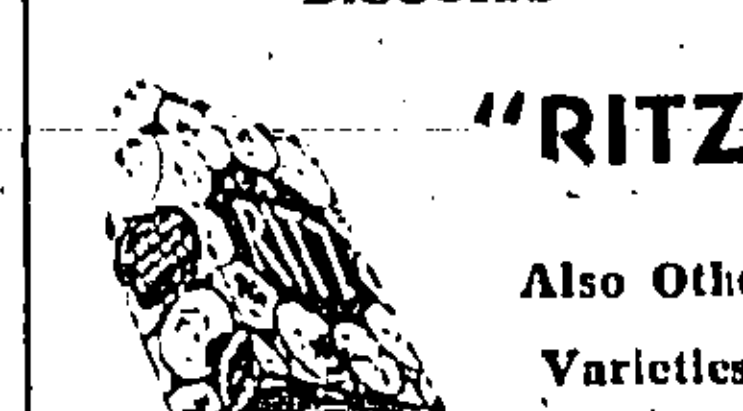
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Editorial

The Braves And The Jaguars

Whenever two factors meet in
the field of competition, the rise
of rivalry is inevitable. It is either
of the opposing factors is worth
anything at all.

Rivalry can enrich as much as
it can be an evil force destroying
an utterly peaceful and friendly
relationship—depending on the
humour again, of the opposing
factors.

To a big section of the teen age
community, the local softball
league has had its final curtain,
after the Braves-Jaguar softball
dispute was settled on Sunday.

It is only natural that teen ages
should consider the Junior League,
the all-important in what is
known as Softballism. They play
in it.

From the beginning of the
league, teen age interest has con-
tributed upon two distinct groups.
The Braves, in attractive uniforms
of white with blue blazers and
sweaters lined in red; and the
Jaguars, in white and blue attire of
the Jaguars.

The Braves are the better team
of the two. They have won the
Junior Softball League of 1949
and in the process they have
beaten the Jaguars twice out of
their three encounters.

It is however, unimportant to
the Topics, who are the champions.
What we cannot help but notice,
is the fine spirit under which the
two teams have progressed from
the first games to the finals.

True, it is that both sides have
disagreed and argued. That must
have been, otherwise it wouldn't
be softball.

True it is also, that out of the
softball circuit the rival teams,
have left their little quarrels in
their gloves, and have clasped
their hands together to laugh and
sing.

That is one reason how the two
teams are able to fight each other
so bitterly in their games—bring-
ing one sports writer to note the
event as one of the classic in the
history of local softball—because
they both know that they couldn't
hurt each other, their sportsman-
ship is too fine and their friend-
ship lies too strong.

It was reported in the Topics
that the Braves as well as the
Jaguars have their own gathering
of the tribes.

It would be most fitting, now
that the league is over, for the
two teams and their followers to
gather as one in a social evening,
if only to strengthen their ties
the more, when the next softball
season comes.



Personality:

The Eager Sisters

Well known among the local teen age society as
much as in the local adult world of sports, are
the Eager sisters, Joan and Cynthia.

Although both are still in their
early teens—Joan is 14 years of
age and sister Cynthia, a year
younger—the girls have achieved
much to earn themselves the
wide popularity that they enjoy.

The sisters first came into the
local limelight by their rich
talent in sports, particularly
swimming.

In 1947, the girls entered in
the VRC swimming events and



JOAN EAGER

impressed so greatly with their
courage that the club im-
mediately marked them down as
prospective representatives.

A year later, both Cynthia
and Joan were seen toiling the
lunes under the Victoria Recre-
ation Club colours. They are not
champions yet, but they soon
may be.

Cynthia is the better of the
two where swimming is con-
cerned. Although sister Joan
takes her sport more seriously,
the diminutive Cynthia, ever late
or completely absent from train-
ing, will be seen to reach the
mark a little ahead of her elder
sister.

Cynthia is a faster swimmer
than Joan, but cannot keep up
to her sister in events of longer
distances. Both girls took part

in the last swimming champion-
ships when, Joan, though un-
placed, finished the 220 and 440
yards distances, whereas little
sister climbed out of the bath
half way to cheer.

The Eager girls are studying in
the King George V School and
both take great interest in the
school sporting activities. Each
was successful in the school
swimming and athletic sports.

They play hockey and softball
also. Joan is a member of the
Pirates' team and is known to be
a good hitter and fielder.

The sisters are completely
outdoor types and not a bit so-
phisticated. Joan is the more
inclined of the two. Cynthia be-
lieves in trying anything once,
no matter how rough it is. It is
reported that she plays soccer
and rugby, or at least has tried.

The Eager girls will be stop-
ping in the Colony for another
year, they hope, after which
they will be returning to their
home in England. In Hong Kong,
meanwhile, both Joan and Cy-
nthia's ambition is to set some re-
cords in their favourite sport—
Swimming.

SOLUTIONS

Solutions to last week's puzzle:

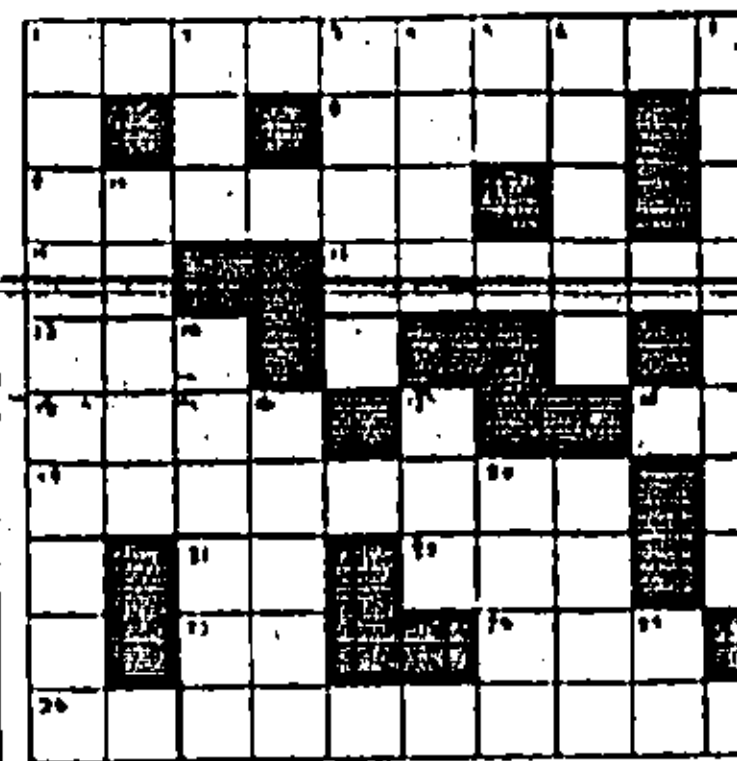
Across: 1-Typewriter, 8-Hush,
9-London, 11-Bitch, 13-
Vim, 15-Ivor, 18-Me, 19-Serenade,
21-ML, 22-All, 23-Oi, 24-Ala,
26-Nonchalant.
Down: 1-Television, 2-Pen, 3-
Whore, 4-Run, 5-Is, 6-Theta, 7-
Rashness, 10-Olive, 14-Mormon,
16-Relic, 17-PAA, 20-Dial, 25-An.

Competition

Platter Chatter

Winners of last week's prize
crossword: Teresa da Silva (\$8)
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Kowloon: R. Gaggino, c/o Labo-
ratory, H.K. and Whampoa
Dock, Kowloon.

This week's puzzle:



Across:

- 1—No variety.
- 4—Leave out.
- 9—Blow.
- 11—Queer Age (Abbr.)
- 12—Love.
- 13—Large Country.
- 15—Volcano.
- 18—Has a uniform.
- 19—Place.
- 21—Left Side (Abbr.)
- 22—One or more.
- 23—Singer.
- 24—Burst.
- 26—Requisites.

Down:

- 1—Cover.
- 2—Used with neither.
- 3—Garment.
- 4—Sign.
- 5—North Island (Abbr.)
- 6—Adjective.
- 7—Gay.
- 10—Try.
- 14—Part of Geometry.
- 16—Narrow Passage.
- 17—Name.
- 20—Before.
- 25—Tall Lad (Abbr.)

Anne Shelton's records are be-
ginning to attract attention out-
side of England, particularly in
the U.S. I like her Decca record
Where Flamingoes Fly, and
What'll I Do, with orchestra un-
der the able direction of
Camarrata.

I heard Jesse Matthews sing
Time May Change in the revue
Maid to Measure but Anne's re-
cord of this charming piece was
sold out before I was aware it
was for sale. This is clear in-
dication that our public knows
more than is generally assumed
of the new work of artists.

As anticipated, Vaughn Mon-
roe turns out a fine version of
Cool Water with the assistance
of the Sons of the Pioneers.
H.M.V. backs this with another
tuneful rendition by Monroe
and the Moon Maids, What Did
I Have to Say.

Saltin' Away My Sweet
Dreams (Columbia): Half the
side is a typical Charlie Barnet
six solo and other half a capable
vocal by Gwyn Tynes. For my
opinion of the reverse, My Heart
Isn't in It, coincide the word
"My" with "Barnet's".

Tommy Dorsey's latest hit. Un-
til, is deserving of the position
it holds among the best-sellers.
Supporting piece is another
smooth Dorsey job, The Sunshine
of Your Smile.

The humour department of-
fers Jimmy Durante's Chidabec-
Ch-Ch and The Day I Read a
Book (MGM). Spike Jones' Wil-
liam Tell Overture is sold out.

Glen Miller fans will wel-
come HMV's I'll Never Smile
Again and Delilah.

I find myself in complete dis-
agreement with the latest Metro-
nome poll of favourite vocalists.
Rankings of the first 10 are:
Billy Eckstine, Frank Sinatra,
Herb Jeffries, Mel Tormé, Bud-
dy Stewart, Nat Cole, Kenny
Hagood, Frankie Laine, Al Hib-
ber and Perry Como. Eleventh
place finds Louis Armstrong and

SUSIE



"Let's go some place where we
can RELAX."

Tit Bits

Malcolm Kempton displayed
excellent form at Wimbledon on
Monday when he was matched
against a seeded player at VRC.

He almost caused a major up-
set in the Junior Championships
and was richly applauded as he
left the court defeated by a
shade.

Mollie Terry and Coralie Wolfe
have been cast in the Stage
Club's coming production,
"Twelfth Night."

Coralie is playing Viola and
Mollie, her twin brother
Sebastian.

Both are talented girls in the
art and good performers from
them can be expected.

Bing Crosby in a tie. Dick Hay-
mes in 15th and England's Den-
ny Dennis 40th.

Two of winner Eckstine's re-
cords are available (MGM).
Best side being Just An Old
Love of Mine. Parlophone offers
two platters by third-placed
Herb Jeffries: These Foolish
Things; Solitude and Flamingo;
Basin Street Blues.

I find nothing wrong with the
selection of the tunes, but some
of the lower placed singers have
done better with the same
material.

The Wren. Gothic.

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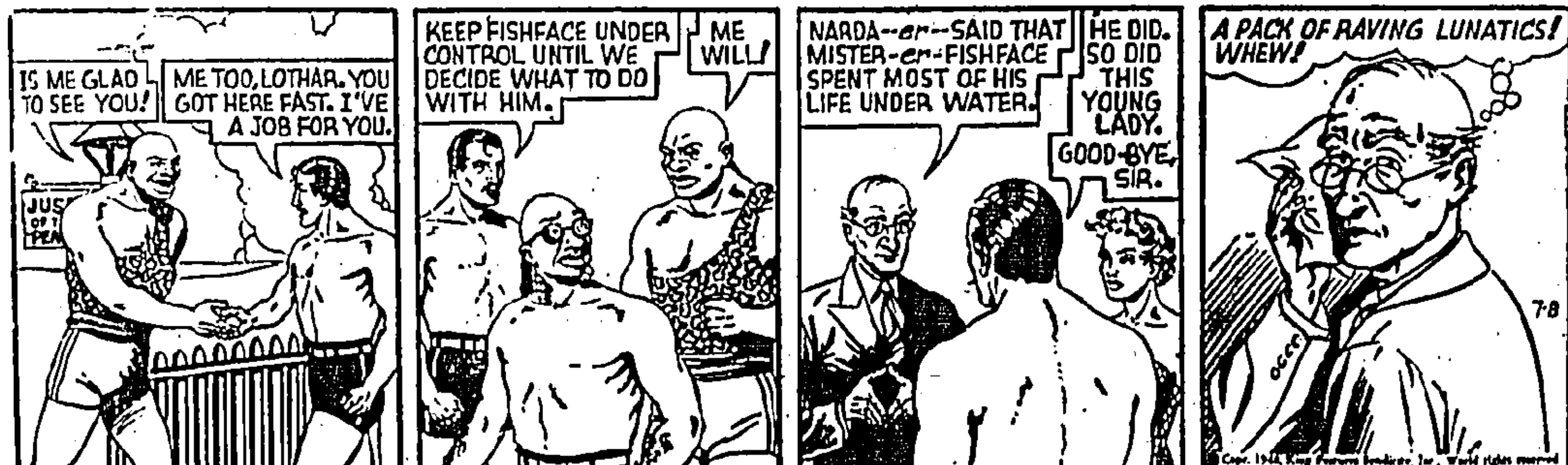
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MANDRAKE THE MAGICIAN

By Lee Falk and Phil Davis



RIP KIRBY

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A palm tree on Mount Davis Road frames this magnificent study of Hong Kong Harbour, with the hills of the New Territories in the distance.

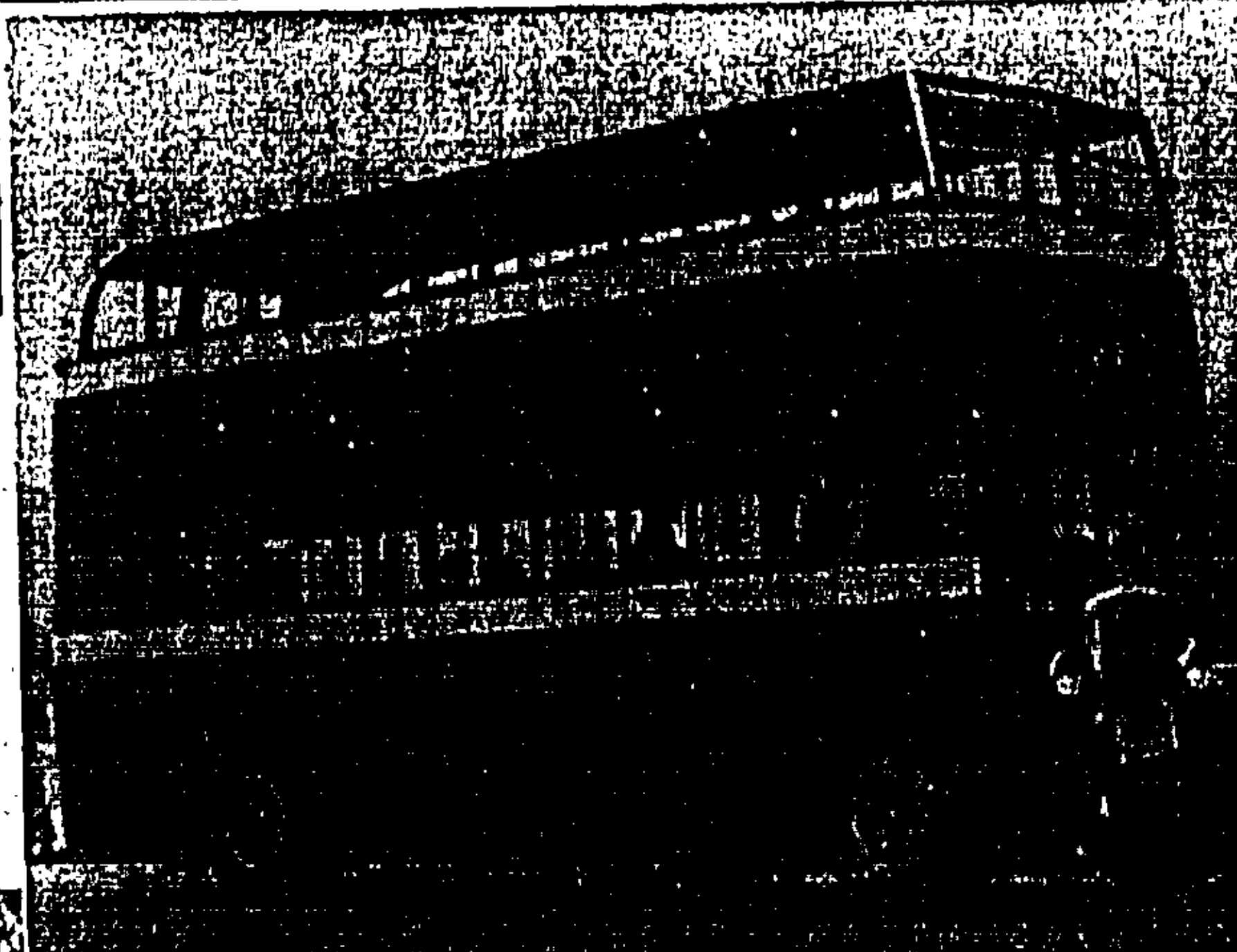


Aluminum staircase leading to the upper deck of the double decker bus. ("China Mail" photo)

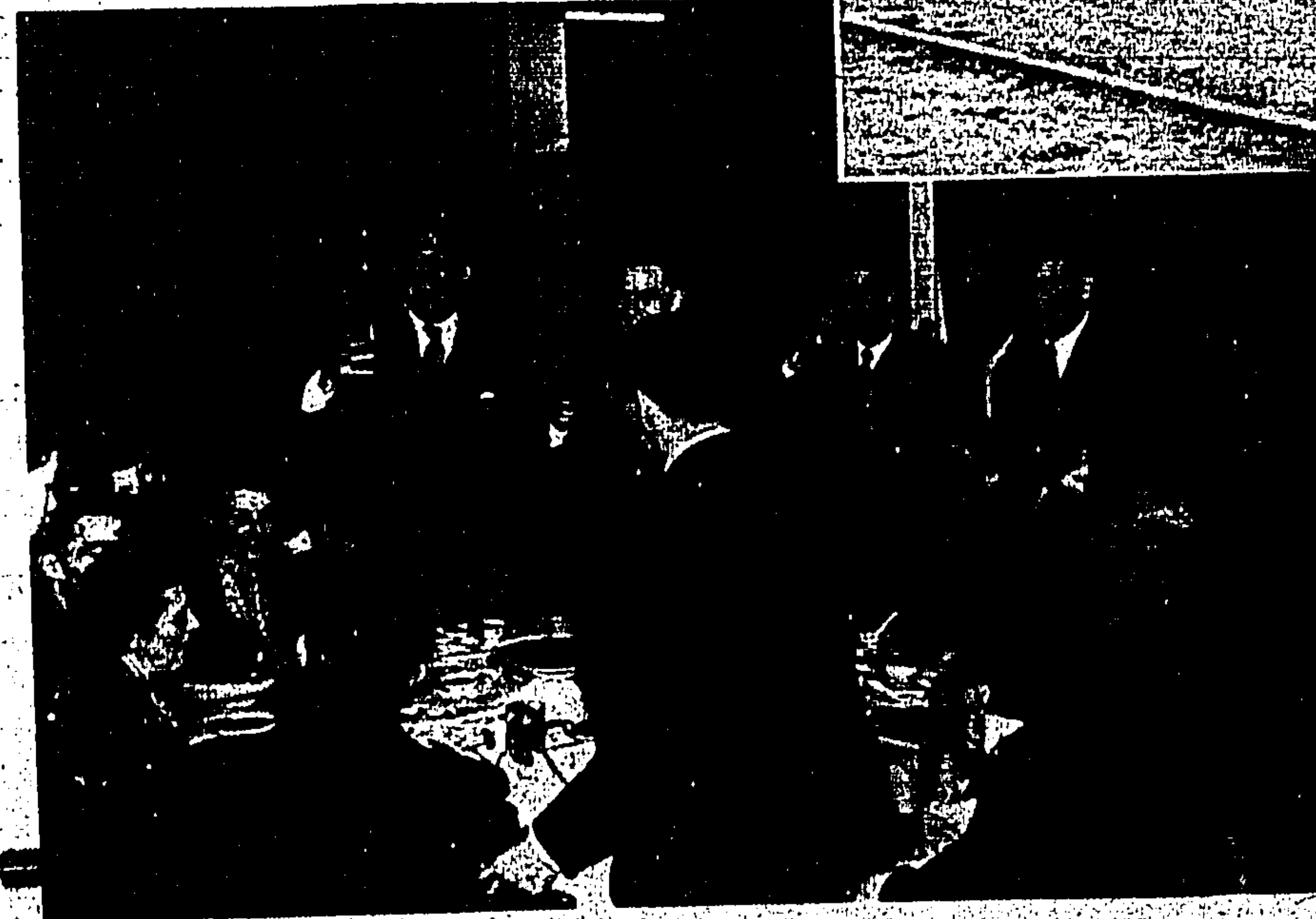
This double decker bus, one of a fleet of 17, of the Kowloon Motor-bus Company, made a trial run on Saigon Road, Kowloon City. ("China Mail" photo)

The upper deck of the new double decker bus has sofa seats for 30 first-class passengers. ("China Mail" photo)

The lower deck has wooden seats for 29 thirdclass passengers. ("China Mail" photo)



Half of the road-raising project at Causeway Bay has been completed. The single railway track on the raised portion of the road is already in use. ("China Mail" photo)



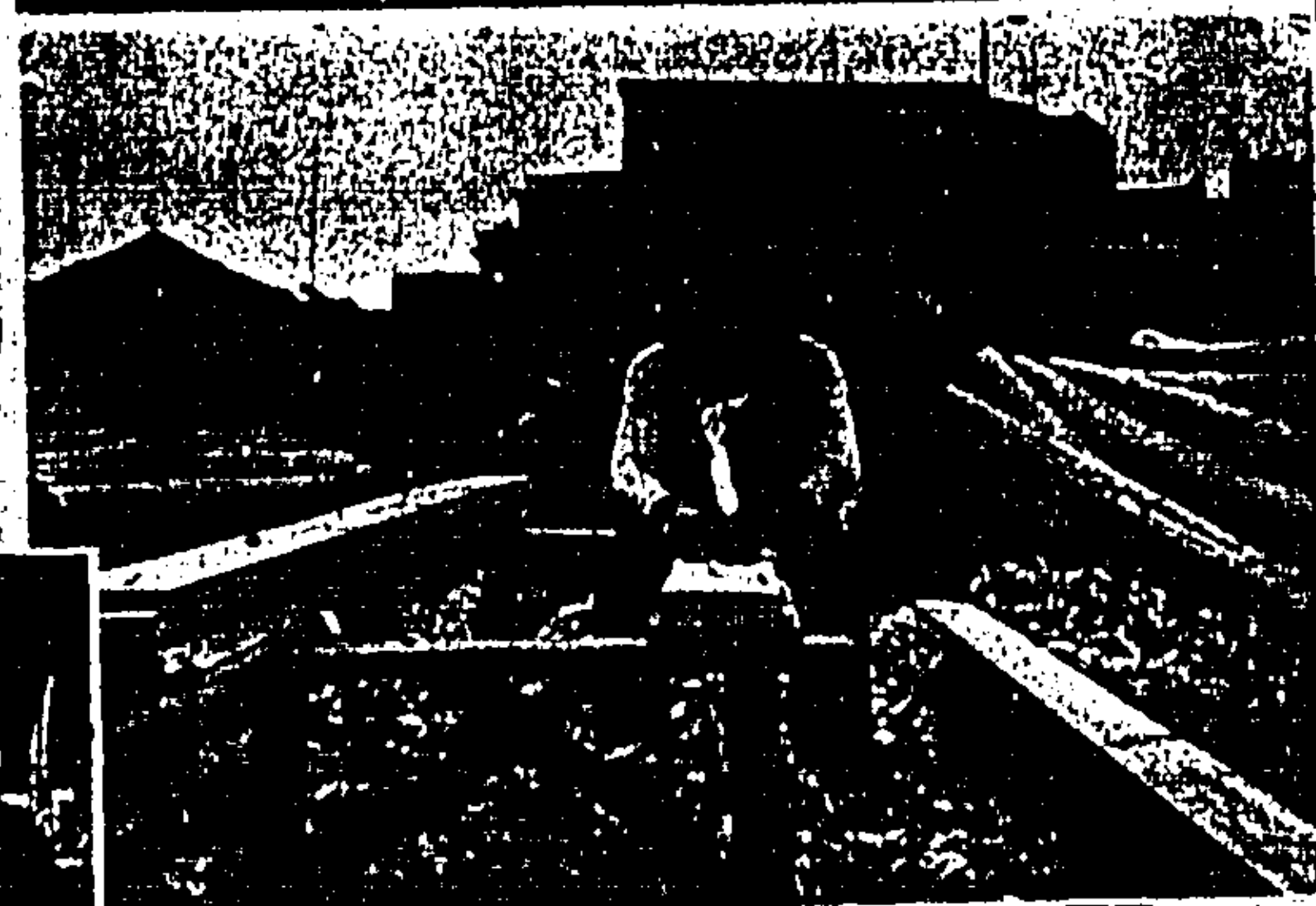
At a dinner given by Messrs. Ed. A. Keller and Company for their business friends. ("China Mail" photo)





Selling sugar-cane. On the sidewalk, this hawker possibly has a family of five or six to feed. ("China Mail" photo).

A familiar scene in Hong Kong — hawkers selling oranges. ("China Mail" photo)



People in crowded sections of Hong Kong often have to draw water from main pipes in the street. Picture shows them queuing with buckets. ("China Mail" photo).



Chinese children playing in the sun on Hong Kong's side-streets. ("China Mail" photo)

At the Chinese Women's Day meeting at the Ng's Theatre on March 8. ("China Mail" photo)



Chinese carpenters working on building contracts get about HK\$10 a day. ("China Mail" photo)



Another Hong Kong scene is Graham Street where vegetable hawkers gather every morning. ("China Mail" photo)



To be seen at the plastics section of the British Industries Fair this May will be beautiful fruit bowls like these in "Perspex."

Also on view at the B.I.F.'s plastics section will be these "Alkathene" piping and acid containers. ("China Mail" photo).





Group picture of members of staff of Messrs. Blair and Company at their annual dinner on March 2. (Ming Yuen Stuldo)



The Hong Kong Club Rugby Team which lost to the Singapore Rugby Team by 3-5 on February 28. ("China Mail" photo)



Happy Birthday (sixth) to Howard Brooks, son of Mr. and Mrs. L. J. Brooks, on March 8.

Bon voyage to Captain G. Farratt, R.A.M.C. Picture taken at a farewell party in the Officers' Mess of the Military Hospital.





JAVA-CHINA SERVICE

Arrivals	Departures
"TITJALENGKA" from Shanghai & Amoy 16th March.	Javaports & Macassar 17th March.
"TASMAN" from Manila & Amoy 18th March.	to Manila 18th March.
	to Javaports & Macassar 31st March.
"TUISADANE" from Macassar & Javaports 17th March.	to Shanghai 19th March.
	to Manila 28th March.
	to Javaports & Macassar 14th April.
"TIBADAK" from Macassar & Javaports 1st April.	to Shanghai 3rd April.
	to Manila 19th April.
	to Javaports & Macassar 28th April.

ASIA-AFRICA-S. AMERICA SERVICE

Arrivals	Departures
"TJIPANAS" In port.	to South Africa 23rd March.
"STRAAT MALAKKA" from Japan 30th March.	to East & South Africa & South America, 31st March.
"BOISSEvain" from South America & South Africa, 31st March.	to East & South Africa & South America, 21st April.
"STRAAT SOERDA" In port.	to East & South Africa & South America, 18th May.
"TEGELBERG" from South America & South Africa, 13th June.	to East & South Africa & South America, 17th June.

All Steamers Calling Mombasa & L. Marques Direct.
Transshipment cargo on through B/L to Dar-es-Salaam.
Zanzibar accepted on all sailings.

SUMATRA-MALAYA-CHINA SERVICE

Arrivals	Departures
"VAN HEUTZ" from B. Dell & Singapore 24th March.	to Straits & B. Dell 2nd April.
"VAN RIEMSDIJK" from B. Dell & Straits 6th April.	to B. Dell & Straits 17th April.

Agents: HOLLAND-EAST ASIA LINE

Arrivals	Departures
"MELISKERK" from Japan & Shanghai 28th March.	to Europe via Manila & Straits 28th March.
"MARIEKERK" from Europe Early April.	to Europe via Manila & Straits, Mid April.
"MOLENKERK" from Europe Early May.	to Europe via Manila & Straits Mid May.
"MEERKERK" from Europe early June.	to Europe via Manila & Straits Mid June.

Transshipment cargo on through B/L accepted to Indian, Mediterranean and Northern European ports.

Office Address: King's Building, Phones: 28015, 28016 & 28017
Chinese Agents: 82, Connaught Rd., Tel. 31196 & 21533

DE LA RAMA LINES

ARRIVING FROM U.S. ATLANTIC COAST
VIA LOS ANGELES & SAN FRANCISCO
S.S. "DONA AURORA" 15th Apr.
S.S. "BENARES" End Apr.

SAILING FOR U.S. ATLANTIC COAST
VIA LOS ANGELES
S.S. "DONA AURORA" 20th Apr.
S.S. "BENARES" End Apr.

THE DE LA RAMA STEAMSHIP CO., INC.

(Incorporated in the Philippines)
MARINA HOUSE CHINESE SHIPPING OFFICE
Tels. 23676-22675 Tels. 23738-20153

THE EAST ASIATIC CO., LTD.

OF COPENHAGEN

M.S. "MANCHURIA"

LOADING BEG. APRIL

for

ANDEN, PORT SAID, ANTWERP, ROTTERDAM, HAMBURG,
OSLO, GOTHENBURG AND COPENHAGEN.
Tanks available for the carriage of oil in bulk.

THE EAST ASIATIC CO., LTD.

Queen's Bldg., 2nd floor. Tel. 34111 & 34112

CHINA MERCHANTS S.N. CO.

14 Connaught Road West. Telephone 31615

SAILINGS

S.S. HAI TAI, Haiphong & Halkow Mar. 17
S.S. TIEN SHAN Halkow March 18

(With Passenger Accommodation)

Cargo for Tientsin, Hankow, & Tientsin acceptable
on through bills of lading.

For full particulars please apply to the above

FINANCE AND COMMERCE

Remarkable Recovery Of Sterling
Noted In 1948

One of the main changes in the financial condition of the world during 1948 has been the recovery of the sterling currency. When the experiment of making the pound sterling freely convertible into dollars had to be abandoned in August 1947, it looked bad for the London-based currency in which more than half the world's international trade is calculated and paid for. Late in 1947 there was widespread expectation that the pound might have to be devalued. Yet within a year all talk of sterling devaluation has stopped. The currency has regained prestige and inherent strength.

That is reflected in a remarkably unanimous hardening of the various non-official pound rates which are quoted outside England. Pound notes could be had in New York at the beginning of 1948 for about 250 dollars. Now they cost at least 300 dollars. In Switzerland pound notes rose during the year from 9 to over 12 francs. The same sort of recovery has occurred in all other markets where pound notes have a price. The rate for transferable accounts sterling in New York, which was 3.00 to 3.20 dollars a year ago, has risen to over 3.50 dollars. The cross-rate between dollar and pound in various markets where exchange dealings are partly free has risen sharply everywhere.

The significance of these unofficial rates is not that they indicate the true value attributed to the pound in free dealings. They reflect mainly the desire of people holding sterling to exchange it for some other currency outside the British exchange control. What the rise in the unofficial rate means is that the desire to get out of sterling, which was clearly very strong a year ago, has now abated.

Hard Currency

Sterling has, in fact, become not only a currency which bankers and traders and central banks are once again content to hold until they need it, in number of countries sterling has even become a "hard currency," almost as scarce as the dollar. Exports in Britain have experienced this change with painful surprise during the second half of 1948.

In Europe especially (but also in other parts of the world) one country after another has restricted imports from the United Kingdom because its central bank did not have enough sterling to meet import payments. By the middle of 1948 the drying up of sterling resources in Europe threatened to strangle trade; it was this movement that led to the idea of the Inter-European Payments Scheme, which has since relieved the pressure.

What has happened to produce this sudden change in the status of the pound sterling is still little known or understood. It is due to three distinct causes. First, confidence in Britain's ability to back its currency with goods was quickly re-established by the ruthless tightening up of her domestic financial affairs.

In November, 1947, and again in April, 1948, crushing new taxes came down on consumer spending in Britain; business expenditure for capital purposes was slashed; wages and prices were stabilised partly by control, but mainly by voluntary agree-

ments which were nevertheless effective; exports were driven up in spite of growing international competition. Marshall Aid and came in time to take care of the remaining gap, by mid-1948, the drain on the gold and dollar reserves had ceased.

Secondly, a new commercial policy was initiated after the currency crisis of August 1947. Where import surpluses or financial movements had created large funds of surplus sterling in particular countries, bilateral negotiations tended to bring mutual trade nearer to balance. The financial use of sterling accounts for international movements of capital was further restricted by re-establishing trade in a complete network of trade negotiations, the United Kingdom Government succeeded largely in preventing the rise of any fresh sterling surplus anywhere.

In trading with the other countries of the European Recovery Programme region, the United Kingdom had a surplus of £45 million in 1946; in 1947 this was converted into a deficit of £30 million (giving rise to free surplus sterling); in the first half of 1948 there was a British surplus of £29 million in visible trade with the region and a surplus of £11 million in invisible transactions. Thus mopping up of £40 million of sterling resources, held by O.E.E.C. countries. As British trade approached nearer to international balance, other countries found quick use for the sterling reserves which only a year before had seemed to them unduly large.

MAERSK LINE

Notice To Consignees

The m/v "GRETE MAERSK" having arrived from New York and Ports of call, Consignees of Cargo are hereby notified that their goods are being landed and placed at their risk and expense into the Hong Kong & Kowloon Wharf & Godown Company's godowns at Kowloon, where delivery may be obtained as soon as the goods are landed.

Optional cargo will not be landed here, unless notice has been given 48 hours prior to vessel's arrival, but carried on from port to port to the final port of call to which the option extends.

No claims will be admitted after the goods have left the Godowns, and all goods remaining undelivered after March 21, 1949, will be subject to rent.

All broken, chafed, and damaged goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on March 18, 1949 at 10 a.m. by our Surveyors, Messrs. Goddard & Douglas.

To comply with the General Bonded Warehouse Regulations consignees must have a Revenue Officer in attendance when damaged dutiable goods are examined.

All claims must reach us before April 14, 1949, or they will not be recognized.

No Insurance will be effected.

JENSEN & CO. Agents.

Hong Kong, March 14, 1949.

Notice To Consignees

STATES MARINE LINES
FAR EAST SERVICE

Consignees for Steamer "GARDEN STATE" are hereby notified that their cargo will be discharged into Kowloon Godowns, where it will lie at Consignees' risk and subject to terms and conditions of storage at Kowloon Godowns. Cargo will be ready for delivery from the Godowns on and after March 15, 1949.

Optional cargo will not be landed here, unless notice has been given prior to steamer's arrival, but carried on from port to port to the final port of call to which the option extends.

Damaged packages must be left in the Godown for examination by the Consignees and the Company's surveyors, Messrs. Carmichael & Clarke at 10 a.m. on March 19, 1949. To comply with the General Bonded Warehouse Regulations Consignees must have a Revenue Officer in attendance when dutiable goods are examined.

No claims will be admitted after the goods have left the steamer's Godown, and all goods remaining undelivered after March 21, 1949, will be subject to rent.

All claims against the Steamer must be presented to the undersigned on or before April 6, 1949, or they will not be recognized.

No Fire Insurance will be effected.

GOURLIE & CO. (H.K.) LTD., Agents.

Hong Kong, March 14, 1949.

Notice To Consignees

Consignees for S.S. "BENVORLICH"

are hereby notified that their cargo is being discharged into the Hong Kong & Kowloon Wharf & Godown Co.'s godown, where it will be at Consignees' risk and subject to the Wharf's terms and conditions of storage, and where delivery may be obtained.

Damaged packages are to be left in the Godowns for examination by Consignees and the Company's surveyors, Messrs. Carmichael & Clarke, at 10 a.m. on March 17, 1949.

To comply with the General Bonded Warehouse Regulations Consignees must have a Revenue Officer in attendance when damaged dutiable goods are examined.

No claims will be admitted after the goods have left the steamer's godowns, and all goods remaining undelivered after March 19, 1949, will be subject to rent.

All claims against the steamer must be presented to the undersigned on or before April 3, 1949, or they will not be recognized.

No Fire Insurance will be effected.

W. R. LOXLEY & CO. (CHINA) LTD., Agents.

Hong Kong, March 14, 1949.

Notice To Consignees

S.S. "EXPENOR"

Damaged cargo on this vessel will be surveyed at Holt's Wharf between 10 a.m. and noon on March 16 and 17, 1949, and consignees are requested to have their representatives present during the survey.

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents.

Hong Kong, March 15, 1949.

Notice To Consignees

M.V. "CLYTONUS"

Damaged cargo on this vessel will be surveyed at Holt's Wharf between 10 a.m. and noon on March 18 and 19, 1949, and consignees are requested to have their representatives present during the survey.

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents.

Hong Kong, March 17, 1949.



AMERICAN PRESIDENT LINES

Cargo Oil Tanks
Refrigeration-Cargocare

TO HONOLULU AND SAN FRANCISCO
via Shanghai & Japan

"General Gordon" Mar. 29
"President Cleveland" Apr. 3
"President Wilson" Apr. 24

TO SAN FRANCISCO AND LOS ANGELES
via JAPAN

"President Taft" Mar. 18
"President Madison" (calls Shanghai) Apr. 1
"President Pierce" Apr. 14

TO NEW YORK, BALTIMORE & BOSTON
via PANAMA

"President Fillmore" (Direct to Pacific Coast) Mar. 29
"President Tyler" (Direct to Pacific Coast) Mar. 31

ROUND THE WORLD

VIA MANILA, SINGAPORE, COLOMBO, KARACHI, SUZ, PORT SAID, ALEXANDRIA, NAPLES, MARSEILLES, GENOA, NEW YORK and BOSTON

"President Monroe" Mar. 28
"President Buchanan" Apr. 2
"President Harding" Apr. 10

ARRIVING FROM SAN FRANCISCO

"President Grant" Mar. 25
St. George's Bldg. Tel. Nos 28172/28173

American Pioneer Line

Arrivals from New York, Boston,
Other Atlantic Ports via Panama

"PADUCAH VICTORY" Mar. 20
"PIONEER BAY" Apr. 10

Sailings to Manila

"PADUCAH VICTORY" Mar. 21
"PIONEER BAY" Apr. 11

Sailings to New York, Boston, Philadelphia,
Baltimore & Other Atlantic Ports via
Shanghai, Japan & Panama Canal
—Special Cargo Oil Tanks—

"PIONEER COVE" Due Mar. 16 Sails Mar. 18
"PIONEER SEA" Due Mar. 21 Sails Mar. 23
"PIONEER TIDE" Due Mar. 26 Sails Mar. 27

For Full Particulars Call



The above list indicates the principal ports of loading and discharge as presently intended but not their rotation. For further information see schedule at the Company's Office.

UNITED STATES LINES

Queen's Building. Company Tel. 91251 (3 lines)

BEN LINE

ARRIVALS

SHIP	FROM	DUE
"BENALBANACH"	Japan	Abt. 21st March
"BENCLEUCH"	U.K.	25th March
"BENBUCHANAN"	U.K.	22nd March
"BENMACDUIH"	U.K.	1st half Apr.
"BENWYVIS"	U.K.	2nd half Apr.

SAILINGS

SHIP	TO	LOADING
"BENALBANACH"	Londonderry, Antwerp, Rotterdam, Hull	Abt. 24th March
"BENCLEUCH"	London, Antwerp, Rotterdam, Hull	25th March
"BENMACDUIH"	Liverpool, Hamburg, Rotterdam, Hull	2nd half Apr.
"BENWYVIS"	Genoa, London, Hull & Leth.	Abt. end April

† Accepts Cargo for Shanghai & Japan.
† Calls at Dar-es-Salaam.
† Port Sudan.

For Further Particulars, Apply To—
W. R. LOXLEY & CO. (CHINA) LTD.

Agents Telephone: 4168
York Building.

KLAIVENESS LINE

SAILINGS

Direct to Los Angeles, San Francisco, Vancouver,
Seattle & Portland

M.S. "CASTLEVILLE" 30th March
Arrives Los Angeles 16th April

M.S. "BOUGAINVILLE" 24th March
Sailing to Singapore, Port Swettenham, Penang & Batavia

M.S. "BOUGAINVILLE" 25th March
Passenger Accommodation Bulk Oil Tanks

Chinese Freight Agents THE HANK LINE (CHINA) LTD.
HOO FOOK PING

THE HANK LINE (CHINA) LTD. King's Building Tel. 87708

STATES MARINE LINES

FAR EAST SERVICE.

S.S. "GARDEN STATE"

NOW DISCHARGING

FROM

NORFOLK, BALTIMORE, NEW YORK AND
SAN FRANCISCO

Agents

GOURLIE & CO., (H.K.) LTD.

Union Building. Telephone 31341

Pacific Far East Line, Inc.

Fast Regular Trans-Pacific Service

SAN FRANCISCO, LOS ANGELES, HONOLULU, AND ALL AMERICAN & CANADIAN PORTS.

Ship	From	Arrive	Depart	From	Arrive	Depart
"BURBANK"	San Francisco	Mar. 18	Mar. 18	San Francisco	Mar. 18	Mar. 18
"JULIA LUCKENBACH"	San Francisco	Mar. 18	Mar. 18	San Francisco	Mar. 18	Mar. 18
"LIGHTNING"	San Francisco	Mar. 18	Mar. 18	San Francisco	Mar. 18	Mar. 18
"FLYING DUTCHMAN"	San Francisco	Mar. 18	Mar. 18	San Francisco	Mar. 18	Mar. 18

For full particulars call General Agents UNITED STATES LINES CO. QUEEN'S BLDG. TEL. 91251

MESSAGERIES MARITIMES

ARRIVALS FROM		
St. MICHEL	Alphonse	Reg. April
MORTAIN	Europe	Reg. April
CHAMPOLLION	Europe	Reg. April
LA DE LA TOUR	Europe	Reg. April
STE. MERE EGLISE	Europe	Reg. April
SAILING TO		
St. MICHEL	Alphonse	Reg. April
MORTAIN	Europe	Reg. April
CHAMPOLLION	Europe	Reg. April
LA DE LA TOUR	Europe	Reg. April
STE. MERE EGLISE	Europe	Reg. April

For Passage and Freight Apply To—
CIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES
 Queen's Building, Tel. 26551 (three lines).

WATERMAN STEAMSHIP CORPORATION

MOBILE, ALA., U.S.A.

EXPRESS SERVICE TO NEW YORK
 BALTIMORE, PHILADELPHIA
 via PANAMA

Direct for New York, Baltimore and Philadelphia via Honolulu.

Accepting thru Cargo for Montreal.
 Limited Passenger accommodation.
 Tanks available for bulk oil cargoes.
 For freight and further particulars apply—
WALLEN & COMPANY
 Agents,
 Hongkong & Shanghai Bank Bldg. Tel. 34177-9.

THE PACIFIC ORIENT EXPRESS LINE

DUE FROM U.S. PACIFIC COAST PORTS
 AND LOADING FOR SHANGHAI

M.V. "MONGABARRA" 9th April

For particulars please apply to—
WALLEN AND CO.
 Agents,
 Hongkong & Shanghai Bank Building.
 Tel. 34177-9.

KOREA STEAMSHIP COMPANY

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
 REPUBLIC OF KOREA

AIR FRANCE ex-Singapore 11 a.m.
 CNAC ex-Amoy via Swatow 12.45 p.m.
 5 p.m., 11 a.m., 12.30 p.m., 2.50 p.m.,
 5.10 p.m., 6.10 p.m., ex-Hongkong via
 Amoy 6 p.m.; ex-Shanghai 11.45 a.m.

CPA ex-Singapore via Bangkok 2.50 p.m.
 HK AIRWAYS ex-Canton 9.40 a.m.
 11.40 a.m., 2.40 p.m., 4.40 p.m.
 FPA ex-New York via London 1.40 p.m.
 Karachi, Calcutta, Bangkok 12.30 p.m.;
 ex-Damascus 2.15 p.m.
 DHARAT AIR ex-Calcutta 3.30 p.m.
 DOAG ex-Southampton/Bangkok 3 p.m.
 (one day later)

TOMORROW
 CNAC ex-Amoy via Swatow 12.45 p.m.
 5 p.m., 11 a.m., 12.30 p.m., 2.50 p.m.,
 5.10 p.m., 6.10 p.m., ex-Hongkong via
 Amoy 6 p.m.; ex-Shanghai 11.45 a.m.

CPA ex-Singapore via Bangkok 2.50 p.m.
 HK AIRWAYS ex-Canton 9.40 a.m.
 11.40 a.m., 2.40 p.m., 4.40 p.m.
 FPA ex-New York via London 1.40 p.m.
 Karachi, Calcutta, Bangkok 12.30 p.m.;
 ex-Damascus 2.15 p.m.
 DHARAT AIR ex-Calcutta 3.30 p.m.
 DOAG ex-Southampton/Bangkok 3 p.m.
 (one day later)

FRIDAY
 AIR FRANCE ex-Singapore 11 a.m.
 CNAC ex-Amoy via Swatow 12.45 p.m.
 5 p.m., 11 a.m., 12.30 p.m., 2.50 p.m.,
 5.10 p.m., 6.10 p.m., ex-Hongkong via
 Amoy 6 p.m.; ex-Shanghai 11.45 a.m.

CATC ex-Running via Luchow, Canton
 6.30 p.m.
 CPA ex-Manila 11.10 a.m.
 HK AIRWAYS ex-Canton 9.40 a.m.
 11.40 a.m., 2.40 p.m., 4.40 p.m.

PAA ex-Manila 12.30 p.m.; ex-San Francisco
 via Honolulu, Midway, Wake,
 Guam, Oahu 3 a.m.; San Francisco via
 Honolulu, Midway, Wake, Guam, Oahu
 3 a.m.; ex-Shanghai 2.10 p.m.
 DOAG ex-Southampton/Bangkok 3 p.m.
 (one day later)

QANTAS ex-Sydney/Manila 3 p.m.
 AIR FRANCE ex-Singapore 11 a.m.
 CNAC ex-Amoy via Swatow 12.45 p.m.
 5 p.m., 11 a.m., 12.30 p.m., 2.50 p.m.,
 5.10 p.m., 6.10 p.m., ex-Hongkong via
 Amoy 6 p.m.; ex-Shanghai 11.45 a.m.

CATC ex-Running via Luchow, Canton
 6.30 p.m.
 CPA ex-Manila 11.10 a.m.
 HK AIRWAYS ex-Canton 9.40 a.m.
 11.40 a.m., 2.40 p.m., 4.40 p.m.

PAA ex-Manila 12.30 p.m.; ex-San Francisco
 via Honolulu, Midway, Wake,
 Guam, Oahu 3 a.m.; San Francisco via
 Honolulu, Midway, Wake, Guam, Oahu
 3 a.m.; ex-Shanghai 2.10 p.m.
 DOAG ex-Southampton/Bangkok 3 p.m.
 (one day later)

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 AIR FRANCE ex-Singapore 11 a.m.
 CNAC ex-Amoy via Swatow 12.45 p.m.
 5 p.m., 11 a.m., 12.30 p.m., 2.50 p.m.,
 5.10 p.m., 6.10 p.m., ex-Hongkong via
 Amoy 6 p.m.; ex-Shanghai 11.45 a.m.

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 6.30 p.m.
 CPA ex-Manila 11.10 a.m.
 HK AIRWAYS ex-Canton 9.40 a.m.
 11.40 a.m., 2.40 p.m., 4.40 p.m.

PAA ex-Manila 12.30 p.m.; ex-San Francisco
 via Honolulu, Midway, Wake,
 Guam, Oahu 3 a.m.; San Francisco via
 Honolulu, Midway, Wake, Guam, Oahu
 3 a.m.; ex-Shanghai 2.10 p.m.
 DOAG ex-Southampton/Bangkok 3 p.m.
 (one day later)

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 CNAC ex-Amoy via Swatow 12.45 p.m.
 5 p.m., 11 a.m., 12.30 p.m., 2.50 p.m.,
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 Amoy 6 p.m.; ex-Shanghai 11.45 a.m.

CATC ex-Running via Luchow, Canton
 6.30 p.m.
 CPA ex-Manila 11.10 a.m.
 HK AIRWAYS ex-Canton 9.40 a.m.
 11.40 a.m., 2.40 p.m., 4.40 p.m.

AIR AND SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE

Shipping Arrivals

YESTERDAY		
GARDEN STATE (Gouille), American,	1,815 tons, ex-Manila, K. Wh.	10.10
HIOI WONG (Jababun), Norwegian,	1,000 tons, ex-Bombay, Carl M. Dir-	10.10
BRIB (Thoresen), K. Wh.	1,000 tons, ex-Bombay, Carl M. Dir-	10.10
DUKEWOOD (W. M.), K. Wh.	1,000 tons, ex-Bombay, Carl M. Dir-	10.10
COLETT (Texas), K. Wh.	1,000 tons, ex-Bombay, Carl M. Dir-	10.10
COLETT (Texas), K. Wh.	1,000 tons, ex-Bombay, Carl M. Dir-	10.10
COLETT (Texas), K. Wh.	1,000 tons, ex-Bombay, Carl M. Dir-	10.10
COLETT (Texas), K. Wh.	1,000 tons, ex-Bombay, Carl M. Dir-	10.10
COLETT (Texas), K. Wh.	1,000 tons, ex-Bombay, Carl M. Dir-	10.10
COLETT (Texas), K. Wh.	1,000 tons, ex-Bombay, Carl M. Dir-	10.10

TODAY		
HEINRICH JESSEN (D & S) ex-Singapore,	1,000 tons, ex-Bombay, Carl M. Dir-	10.10
PIONEER COVE (USL) ex-New York,	1,000 tons, ex-Bombay, Carl M. Dir-	10.10
TITJALENGKA (RIL) ex-Shanghai,	1,000 tons, ex-Bombay, Carl M. Dir-	10.10
TITJALENGKA (RIL) ex-Shanghai,	1,000 tons, ex-Bombay, Carl M. Dir-	10.10
TITJALENGKA (RIL) ex-Shanghai,	1,000 tons, ex-Bombay, Carl M. Dir-	10.10

TOMORROW		
MAURANG (Jardine) ex-Bangkok,	1,000 tons, ex-Bombay, Carl M. Dir-	10.10
TITJALENGKA (RIL) ex-Shanghai,	1,000 tons, ex-Bombay, Carl M. Dir-	10.10
TITJALENGKA (RIL) ex-Shanghai,	1,000 tons, ex-Bombay, Carl M. Dir-	10.10
TITJALENGKA (RIL) ex-Shanghai,	1,000 tons, ex-Bombay, Carl M. Dir-	10.10

Shipping Departures		
YESTERDAY		
BALI (Gillman) for Manila,	1,000 tons, ex-Bombay, Carl M. Dir-	10.10
ESANO (Jardine) for Zulu Dar,	1,000 tons, ex-Bombay, Carl M. Dir-	10.10
ESANO (Jardine) for Zulu Dar,	1,000 tons, ex-Bombay, Carl M. Dir-	10.10
ESANO (Jardine) for Zulu Dar,	1,000 tons, ex-Bombay, Carl M. Dir-	10.10

TODAY		
ANRUI (D & S) for Swatow,	1,000 tons, ex-Bombay, Carl M. Dir-	10.10
JANGBANG (Jardine) for Sandakan,	1,000 tons, ex-Bombay, Carl M. Dir-	10.10
HEINRICH JESSEN (D & S) for Swatow,	1,000 tons, ex-Bombay, Carl M. Dir-	10.10
HINDUSTAN (Jardine) for Shanghai,	1,000 tons, ex-Bombay, Carl M. Dir-	10.10

TOMORROW		
HUPEI (D & S) for Swatow,	1,000 tons, ex-Bombay, Carl M. Dir-	10.10
SIRIDANA (Mac Mac) for Swatow,	1,000 tons, ex-Bombay, Carl M. Dir-	10.10
TITJALENGKA (RIL) for Swatow,	1,000 tons, ex-Bombay, Carl M. Dir-	10.10
TREVINE (Mac Mac) for Swatow,	1,000 tons, ex-Bombay, Carl M. Dir-	10.10

VESSELS DUE FROM SOUTH AFRICA		
BOISSEVAIN (RIL) 31	June	18
TEGELBERG (RIL) 18	June	18

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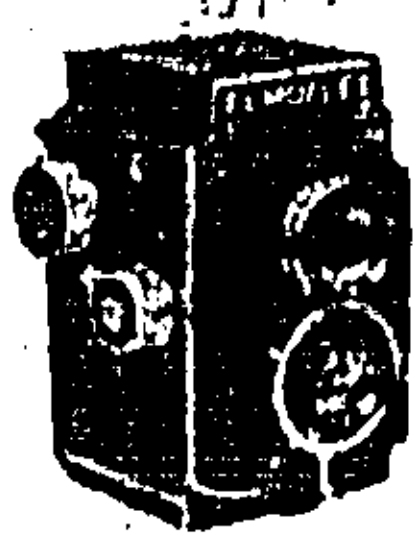
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JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., LTD.

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INDO-CHINA S. N. CO., LTD.
 SAILINGS
 S.S. "HANGSANG" to Sandakan 9 a.m. 16th Mar.
 M.V. "EASTERN" to Yokohama, Nagoya 10th Mar.
 S.S. "WINGSANG" to Keelung & Shanghai 10th Mar.
 S.S. "LOKSANG" to Straits & Calcutta 24th Mar.

ARRIVALS
 M.V. "EASTERN" from Calcutta, Rangoon 10th Mar.
 S.S. "MAUSANG" from Sandakan 10th Mar.
 S.S. "WINGSANG" from Shanghai & Keelung 10th Mar.
 S.S. "LOKSANG" from Japan Ports 24th Mar.
 S.S. "CHOXSANG" from Calcutta, Straits 31st Mar.



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ELMO FLEX
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With a Self-Timer, Auto-Film-Counter and F3.5 Lens.
Reliable & Economical.

IP-LEE COMBINATION IMPRESSES NET FANS

Challenge To Colony's Musclemen

A challenge to weight-lifters at any weight has been issued by Valentine Knige, 23-year-old son of Mr. L. Knige, proprietor of Knige's Hydro-Institute of Hong Kong. He will be giving an exhibition of weight-lifting at The Golden Gloves Boxing Tournament at The China Fleet Club on April 2, and is prepared to meet any challenge from members of the audience. Within the short period of a year and a half, Valentine, with the help and scientific training of his father, who is well-known throughout the Far East as a Physical Culture Expert, has brought himself in the circle of the world's best weight-lifters. He has developed a magnificent physique and is looking forward with confidence to the Olympic Games in 1952. Valentine's body weight is 148 lbs. and he has done the following three Olympic lifts: Two Hand Press—190 lbs. Snatch—100 lbs. Clean and Jerk—280 lbs.

Played For Everton

Mr. L. Knige himself is an outstanding personality in Weight Lifting and Soccer. He was the only footballer from Czechoslovakia chosen to play for Everton against Tottenham Hotspurs as Right back in Prague in 1911. He has also represented his Club, The Prague Athletic Club Sparta in International games on several occasions.

In Weight-lifting and Wrestling, Mr. L. Knige was winner in the Shanghai Games of 1929 and in 1933 he won and established new Far East records in Ten International Lifts, which records have remained unbeaten up to the present time.

His most outstanding records are:

1. Two Hands Dumb-bell Clean and Jerk: 210 lbs.
2. Two Hands Dumb-bell Clean and Push: 224 lbs.
3. One Hand Dumb-bell Press: 205 lbs.
4. One Hand Deadlift (Left Hand): 375 lbs.
5. One Hand Deadlift (Right Hand): 411 lbs.
6. Two Hands Deadlift: 675 lbs.
7. Squatting: 405 lbs.
8. Prone Press: 308 lbs. (1 1/2 lbs. behind the world's heavy weight record.)
9. Tumbling from the stomach: 372 lbs. (1 1/2 lbs. behind the world's heavy weight record.)
10. Two Leg Press: 900 lbs.

Contains Vitamins A, B1, B2, D, Nicotin, Calcium, Iron and Phosphorus



GOOD HEALTH in Advancing Years

AS the years go by the maintenance of health and vitality calls for adjustment in the daily dietary. Where the digestive system has been weakened by illness or advancing age it is important that foods should be chosen which are readily acceptable, highly nourishing and easily assimilable.

'Ovaltine' meets these needs ideally. It is scientifically prepared from Nature's best foods—milk, malt and eggs—and provides concentrated and perfectly balanced nourishment in the most digestible form.

The deliciousness and palatability of 'Ovaltine' appeal to the most fastidious taste and it can be digested with the greatest ease—even when the digestive system is seriously impaired. This fact is recognized in the leading Hospitals and Nursing Homes where 'Ovaltine' is highly valued as a stand-by in cases of difficult feeding.

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for Health, Strength & Vitality

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CHINA MAIL

HONG KONG, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16, 1949.

Drink...

South China Tea Corp., Ltd.
55, Connaught Rd., C.
1st & 2nd Flrs. Tel: 21307.



But Fiancee Places Wooderson First!



Former British mile champion and world record holder Sidney Wooderson, aged 34, couldn't do better than be placed 16th in the Southern Counties cross-country championships at Camberley, Surrey. But Miss Pamela Wilcock, aged 24, of Kingston, Surrey, whose engagement to him is just announced, puts him first. She is secretary to one of the partners in the firm of City solicitors by whom he is employed. They have known each other for three years, since he rejoined the firm on demobilisation. They plan to marry in about a year. (AP Photo)

Oliver, Stokes Run Up Big Scores At Cricket

(By "MID ON")

Despite the end-of-season feeling that has already crept into most of the teams, some excellent performances with bat and ball were recorded over the week-end, when a number of League matches, and a few friendlies, were decided.

Best performance with the bat, that is from the score point of view, was returned by N. R. Oliver, of the "Optimists," who scored 63 against Kowloon, while L. F. Stokes, who has batted so consistently for "Scorpions" throughout the season, was only one run behind his club-mate, scoring 62 against Navy.

At Sookunpoo on Sunday, when Indian Recreation Club won their home match against Royal Air Force, Cpl. A. Hodgson took seven IRC wickets for 39 runs, John Arculli returning the compliment with five for 29 when it came to the RAF's turn at the wicket.

Abbas won the toss for Indian RC and elected to bat on a hard wicket. It was a wise decision in that folding in the hot sun was really a job. The first wicket fell

early as the result of S. A. Ismail being run out in attempting a short one, but thereafter Minu and S. H. Khan made 28 all-pieces, while F. M. el Arculli helped with 12.

Gambrell, who opened from the Plantation End, made the ball rear awkwardly, but he was never dangerous in that the ball was kicking too much and when left alone bounced too high to be anything of a threat.

Steady Length

Hodgson, keeping a steady length throughout his spell, broke just about from the leg to make him difficult to get away. He was backed up by a field that gave nothing away, and but for the fact that Minu brought off a few hefty shots, his analysis no doubt would have been much better.

On the previous day, Indians journeyed to Happy Valley where they found Billington in fine form with the ball and were all out for 50 runs. "Duffy" Abdul-Bazak scored 20 and F. M. el Arculli 11 not out. The latter went in No. 6 and had there been anybody to stay with him the score would no doubt have been more respectable.

K. M. Rumbhoom, recently migrated from IRC, played a fine innings against his old club and brought off some first class shots on the off side. He was always confident against the bowling of John Arculli and Company and showed that he has the right idea about batting by not being afraid to really go forward to the ball whenever occasion demanded. On Sunday the League champions, Club de Recreo, entertained HKCC "Occasionals" in a friendly, the latter having things pretty much their own way. Everything considered, the game was thoroughly enjoyable and played in the real holiday spirit. Sleeto, Army fast bowler, turned out for "Occasionals" and had a field day, his six wickets costing but 34 runs.

Quadrangular Athletic Meet This Sunday

A Quadrangular Athletic Meeting between the three Services and the South China Athletic Association will be held at Caroline Hill on Sunday, May 8, commencing at 2 p.m.

Elimination heats will be held on Wednesday, May 4.

The following is a provisional programme of the different events:

100 metres: 2 p.m.
Shot Put: 2 p.m.
800 metres: 2.15 p.m.
High Jump: 2.30 p.m.
400 metres Hurdles: 2.45 p.m.
200 metres: 3 p.m.
Discus Throw: 3 p.m.
1,500 metres: 3.15 p.m.
400 metres: 3.25 p.m.
Tug-of-war: 3.30 p.m.
400 metres Relay (100 x 4): 3.45 p.m.
Javelin Throw: 4 p.m.
100 metres High Hurdles: 4.10 p.m.
Long Jump: 4.30 p.m.
Three miles: 4.30 p.m.
Medley Relay Race (2 x 200, 1 x 400, 1 x 800): 5 p.m.
Hop, Step and Jump: 5.15 p.m.
Final Tug-of-war: 5.30 p.m.
Method of scoring will be as follows:

The 100, 200, 400 metres, 110 metres High Hurdles and 400 metres Middle Hurdles will be run in two groups of four as there are only six lanes in the track. Four, three, two and one points will be given to the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th places respectively.

In all other events, eight, six, four and two points will be awarded to the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th places respectively.

A Pole Vault (Exhibition) will also be included in the programme.

SOCCER GAME

The Police will meet RAF in a First Division Football League match at Boundary Street today starting at 5 p.m. The referee will be Mr. J. G. Padley and the line-upmen will be Li Shui-ming and P. M. Xavier.

The "China Mail" has been informed that the Annual Inter-School Sports will be held on Thursday, March 24, at Caroline Hill, commencing at 2 p.m. sharp.

THE HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB

NOTICE TO MEMBERS

Fourth Race Meeting,

Saturday, 26th March, 1949

There are ten races, the First Race will be rung at 1.30 p.m. The first race will be run at 2.00 p.m. and the last race at 6.20 p.m.

Through Numbers (10 Races—\$20) may be obtained at the Office of the Treasurer, 1st Floor, Exchange Building, also tickets for the special Cash Sweep on the last race as well as those for the "Lantau Handicap" to be run at the 8th Race Meeting on 21st May 1949. Tickets in the Special Cash Sweep and the last race and the "Lantau Handicap" may be purchased also at the club's Branch Office, No. 382 Nathan Road, Kowloon.

MEMBERS' BADGES AND ENCLOSURE

Members and guests are reminded that they and their ladies MUST wear their badges PROMINENTLY DISPLAYED throughout the Meeting.

NO ONE WITHOUT A BADGE WILL BE ADMITTED TO THE MEMBERS' ENCLOSURE.

Badges admitting non-members to the Members' Enclosure and Club Rooms at \$10 including tax, are obtainable through the Secretary on the written or personal introduction of a Member, such Member, to be responsible for all debts etc.

Badges admitting to Members' Enclosure will NOT be on sale at the RACE COURSE.

The Treasurer's Comptroller Office will close at 11 a.m. and the Secretary's Office at 11.45 a.m. Both Offices at 1st Floor, Exchange Building.

A limited number of tickets will be obtainable at the Club House provided they are ordered in advance from the No. 1 Boy (Tel. 27343).

NO CHILDREN WILL BE ADMITTED TO THE CLUB'S PREMISES DURING THE MEETING.

PUBLIC ENCLOSURE

The price of admission to Public Enclosure is \$1 including tax for all persons including ladies, and is payable at the Gate.

Bookmakers, Tipsters, etc., will not be permitted to operate within the precincts of The Hong Kong Jockey Club during the Race Meeting.

Refreshments will be obtainable in the Restaurant in the Public Enclosure.

SERVANTS' PASSES

Servants' passes will be issued to Private Box holders ONLY, who are requested to distribute them with discrimination and to endorse their names on the passes. Holders of such passes are not permitted in the Members' Enclosure except for passing through on their duties and must remain in their employers' stands.

BY ORDER

C. B. BROWN

PWD Case Verdict Today

(Continued from Page 2)
Counsel concluded his address by intimating that if May stood convicted, he would lose his job, pension and his reputation on such inferences as the prosecution had brought against him without a single bit of direct evidence from beginning to end. The only evidence, he submitted, came from Kwok Kwong, a perjurer, who had already been found guilty on a previous conviction.

Crown Counsel
Opening up his address, Crown Counsel explained that the first accused, Kwok, was not defended by counsel, and that it was a rule of practice in law that, where an accused was not defended by counsel and where he did not call any witnesses on his behalf, the prosecution does not sum up the case against him.

"But do not think that by this course I am associating myself entirely with Kwok Kwong or that I am adopting him as a prosecution witness against May," Mr. Hooton declared.

Referring to May, Mr. Hooton stated that in the majority of cases that came before the Criminal Courts there was no admissibility as to evidence of character.

As for Kwok Kwong he continued, one could not convict a person merely because he had a previous conviction. That, he said, would be no justification.

Regarding the question of motive, Mr. Hooton told the jury that it was very difficult to see in a man's heart and know why he does a particular thing. Thus if they had the conclusion that the accused did the thing as charged, they need not worry their heads about the motives behind it.

"Both Did It"
The defence of May, Counsel continued, has been that Kwok Kwong did the job alone. The case for the Crown, he stated, is that he did it not alone, but that both accused did it.

Mr. Hooton declared further that it was also in the submission of the Crown that by judging the reasonable possibilities and probabilities of the stories of both accused the jury would come to the conclusion that Kwok Kwong was for the most part telling the truth.

Turning to the Pokfulam job, Counsel submitted that if the jury were to come to the conclusion that Kwok Kwong was acting innocently, then he would submit that May was still guilty.

"If someone told somebody else to do a thing," Counsel said, "and that person did it innocently, the person who gave the orders was still guilty."

Mr. Hooton asked the jury to infer why Kwok Kwong would do the Pokfulam job, which last

ed some three weeks, quite openly, unless he was sure of May's approval of the job.

As to May's explanation regarding the lights at Heitmeier's office, Crown Counsel stated that the submission of the Crown was that the Crown was wrong. It may have wanted the two lights installed in order to improve Heitmeier's eyes, he could very well have just stated the type of light required, or just phoned up a shop nearby.

Trial To Continue

Mr. Hooton further stated that the jury might think that Kwok Kwong was telling the truth when he said that Kwok Kwong and Lai Kwun were waiting for May on the morning of the day in question at Prince's Building. In the submission of the prosecution, he added, the only real explanation was that they were in fact waiting for May.

Regarding the counts of falsification of documents, Mr. Hooton said that it was May's contention that May knew certain workmen were at Pokfulam and that he knew perfectly well they were at Pokfulam. The returns therefore showing workmen on the job were well known to him, he submitted.

May had before him the Progress Chart, the Distribution List, and the daily labour distribution and jobs report, he continued.

After Mr. Hooton had concluded his address, Kwok Kwong announced that he had no intention of addressing the jury.

The trial will continue this morning, when Mr. Justice Williams will commence his summing up of the case. The verdict is expected some time this afternoon.

SCAA To Build Bathing Pavilion

The South China Athletic Association, has obtained permission from Government to erect a Bathing Pavilion at the Eastern extremity of Shaikwan, about five minutes' walk from the Shaikwan tram terminus.

The proposed Bathing Pavilion, which will cost approximately \$200,000, will be built after the same design as the former concrete Bathing Pavilion of the Association at North Point.

This latter Bathing Pavilion, which proved to be a boon to thousands of swimmers before the war, was destroyed during the Battle of Hong Kong in 1941. It was located at that part of North Point where the Japanese effected a landing after destroying the tanks of the Asiatic Petroleum Company nearby.

The new Pavilion is expected to be ready for use by members in June.

Equine Sports Club Hold Meeting

The Equine Sports Club at its meeting held at the Hong Kong Sports Club yesterday discussed the question of building a club house on the 35-acre site at Shatin, Causeway Bay, which was purchased in 1941.

It appointed Mr. F. Simons, member of the club, to conduct negotiations in matters related to the club house project.

As to the club's financial status, it was decided that a sub-committee be formed, headed by Mr. R. C. Terry as chairman.

Mr. H. Yung, club's vice-president, was in the chair.